



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES

2001–02 Report on the operation
of the *Local Government
(Financial Assistance) Act 1995*

◆
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GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL
REPORT
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For further information about this report
and the responsibilities of the National Office
of Local Government contact:

National Office of Local Government
Department of Transport and Regional Services
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601
Phone: (02) 6274 8017
Fax: (02) 6274 8155

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Cover photos (left to right)

Mill Park library, Whittlesea, Victoria
Courthouse Arts Centre, Port Hedland, WA
Surveyor with theodolite, NSW
Roadworks in Gingin, WA
Douglas Shire Council building, Queensland
Queanbeyan public swimming pool, NSW

FOREWORD



I am pleased to present to Parliament the seventh annual report on the operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

This report, on the distribution of Federal Government financial assistance grants to Local Governments, has been prepared with cooperation between all levels of Government. In 2001–02, the Federal Government provided just under \$1.4 billion in financial assistance grants to Australian local councils and this report includes information on how the funds are distributed in accordance with agreed national principles of equity and fairness.

Local government is a publicly accountable key player in all our lives, providing us with a wide range of day-to-day essential services and responding to local community priorities. This report records the distribution of Federal Government grants and the efficiency and effectiveness with which local government, as a significant and vital sector of the Australian economy, provides services and administers funds for the benefit of local communities across the Nation.

Since becoming the Minister for Local Government in early 2002, I have made

a substantial effort to address some of the primary challenges currently confronting Local Governments. In particular, while I am pleased that Local Governments are gaining more responsibilities, I am concerned that many councils are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain adequate revenue to maintain current service levels as well as meet the resourcing requirement of their diverse range of new responsibilities.

In May 2002 I announced the Local Government and Cost Shifting Inquiry to be conducted by The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration. The Committee will address some fundamental issues relating to the financing and responsibilities of Local Government that need to be considered. I am pleased to have included in this report, at Chapter 6, relevant information about the Inquiry, which is due to be completed in the latter part of 2003.

I commend this report to you on the operation of the Local Government Financial Assistance Act in 2001–02.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wilson Tuckey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Minister for Regional Services, Territories
and Local Government

P R E F A C E

Following a review in 1994 of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986*, the Federal Government enacted the replacement *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. The 1995 Act requires that the Minister report to Parliament 'as soon as practicable' after 30 June each year on the operation of the Act.

This annual report to Parliament must include an assessment of:

- the extent to which the allocation of financial assistance grants has been made on a full horizontal equalisation basis;
- the methods used by the Local Government Grants Commissions in making their recommendations; and
- the performance by local governing bodies of their functions including:
 - their efficiency; and
 - services provided by them to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Submitting an annual report to Parliament seeks to achieve two of the Federal Government's goals in relation to the arrangements under the Act. These goals are:

- to increase transparency and accountability of the States in the allocation of the Federal Government's grants to local governing bodies; and

- to promote consistency in the methods by which grants are allocated to achieve equitable levels of services by local governing bodies.

Reporting on the performance of local governing bodies helps to assess whether two of the purposes of the Act are being achieved. These purposes are:

- to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local government; and
- to improve the provision by local governing bodies of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The report covers all local governing bodies in receipt of grants under the Act. It fosters transparency and accountability by enabling an interstate and an intrastate comparison of the allocation of grants to local governing bodies. Chapter 2 of the Report outlines the history, process and principles of apportioning funding between the States and between local governing bodies within a State. Appendix D sets out the financial outcomes for all local governing bodies in receipt of the grants. The classification system used in Appendix D to group similar local governing bodies is described in Appendix F.

Consistency of method in allocating funding to local governing bodies is promoted under the National Principles, a copy of which is at Appendix A. The methodologies adopted by

each of the States in allocating funding to local governing bodies are summarised in Appendix B. The grant outcomes for each council in 2001–02 are at Appendix D and the ranking of local governing bodies within a State on a relative needs basis is at Appendix E.

Efficiency and effectiveness of Local Governments continue to be challenging to assess. However, recent developments are outlined at Chapter 3. State reports on performance and reform are at Appendix G. The National Office of Local Government continues to promote improved performance of local governing bodies through the National Awards for Innovation. The 2002 Innovation Award winners are at Appendix I.

Chapter 4 addresses infrastructure issues and has a bearing on the efficiency and effectiveness aspects of Local Government performance.

A report on the gains that have been made in 2001–02 in the delivery of Local Government services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is in Chapter 5 and the reports from the States are at Appendix H.

The division of responsibilities and associated financial arrangements between Federal, State and Local Governments are fundamental to the future of Local Government. The Cost Shifting Inquiry, announced in May 2002, stands to have a significant impact on these. An overview of the purpose and nature of the Inquiry is provided at Chapter 6.

In recognition of the increasing level of participation of Area Consultative Committees (ACCs) in regional development, the State maps on the inside back cover of this report include ACC boundaries. The Accessibility/Remoteness Index for Australia has been retained on the map of Australia.

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CHAPTER 1

LOCAL GOVERNANCE IN AUSTRALIA

Constitutional responsibility for Local Government lies with States and Territories, which provide the legal framework for councils' operations. As a result, there are significant differences in the responsibilities of councils and in the State systems for overseeing them and the services they deliver.

The Commonwealth Government recognises that improving the capacity of Local Government to deliver services and enhancing the performance of Local Government is of significant national benefit. The *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* is the primary mechanism established by the Commonwealth to facilitate these goals.

Local Government roles

State legislation provides few limits on what services Local Government can provide. In broad terms, Local Government has a number of roles:

- a governance role
- an advocacy role
- a service delivery role
- a planning and community development role
- a regulatory role.

Local Government functions

Councils conduct business and provide services according to local needs and the requirements of the various Local Government Acts. Examples of Local Government functions and services include:

- engineering (public works design, construction and maintenance – for example, roads, bridges, footpaths, drainage, cleaning, waste collection and management)
- recreation (golf courses, swimming pools, sports courts, recreation centres, halls, kiosks, camping grounds and caravan parks)
- health (water sampling, food sampling, immunisation, toilets, noise control, meat inspection and animal control)
- community services (child care, elderly care and accommodation, refuge facilities, meals on wheels, counselling and welfare)
- building (inspection, licensing, certification and enforcement)
- planning and development approval
- administration (aerodromes, quarries, cemeteries, parking stations and street parking)
- cultural/educational (libraries, art galleries and museums)

Table 1.1 Distribution of urban, regional and rural local governing bodies¹ (no. and %) by State, 2001–02

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
Urban	44	33	14	29	19	2	2	143
<i>Per cent of total</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>20</i>
Regional and rural	131	46	143	113	55	27	64	579
<i>Per cent of total</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>97</i>	<i>80</i>
Total	175	79	157	142	74	29	66	722

Note: 1 Includes all local governing bodies that received financial assistance grant funding in 2001–02.

- in some States, water and sewerage
- other (abattoirs, sale-yards, markets and group purchasing schemes).

Unlike Local Governments in the United Kingdom and the United States, Local Government in Australia is not formally recognised as being responsible for services such as education, public housing and policing, which are largely State/Territory or Commonwealth responsibilities.

Local Government overview

Local Government expenditure across Australia in 2000–01 was almost \$16 billion, 2.4 per cent of GDP.

In 2001–02, 722 local governing bodies were eligible for financial assistance grants. Under the Australian Classification of Local Government (ACLG) system, 579 of the councils, or some 80 per cent, are categorised as 'regional' or 'rural' (see Table 1.1 and additional information on the ACLG at Appendix F).

Over the 81 years from 1910 to 1991, the number of councils in Australia fell by over 20 per cent.¹ In the ten years following 1991, council numbers fell by a further 25 per cent (see Table 1.2).

The decline in the number of councils is largely due to increasing recognition that larger councils have a more secure and adequate financial base and that larger councils have better service delivery economies of scale.

Employees

In February 2001 the Local Government sector employed an estimated 145 000 people. The number increased from 140 000 in February 1999 although employment levels in earlier years have been higher (148 000 in February 1997; see Table 1.3).

Population

Table 1.4 shows that across all States, the average population for local governing bodies in 2001–02 was almost 26 400. However, 50 per cent of councils have fewer than 6490 residents. Population ranges from 0 for the Roads Trust in NT to 899 604 for Brisbane City Council.

The average population size of councils by State differs markedly, varying from almost 3000 in Northern Territory, where there are many small Indigenous communities, to just over 61 000 in Victoria, the State which underwent significant State Government-imposed structural reform in the mid-1990s.

1 K Sproats, *Comparisons of agendas and processes in Australian Local Government*, paper presented to the Local Government on Queensland Centenary Conference, August 1996, p. 5

Table 1.2 Local Government numbers 1910–2001

State	Councils 1910 ²	Councils 1991 ²	Per cent change 1910–91	Councils Sept 2001 ³	Per cent change 1991–2001
NSW	324	176	-45.7	172	-2.3
Vic	206	210	1.9	79	-62.4
Qld	164	134	-18.3	125	-6.7
WA	147	138	-6.1	142	2.9
SA	175	122	-30.3	68	-44.3
Tas	51	46	-9.8	29	-37.0
NT	n/a	n/a	n/a	36	n/a
Total	1 067	826	-22.6	615¹	-25.5

Note:

1 The September 2001 total Council number does not include the 36 NT Councils.

Sources:

2 Sproats 1996, p. 5.

3 National Office of Local Government from information provided by State Local Government associations and individual councils (for consistency, only councils established under State Local Government specific legislation are included. Local government bodies in receipt of Federal Government financial assistance grants that are established under separate State legislation or declared by the Federal Minister are excluded).

Table 1.3 Local Government employment

State	Population ¹ '000	Employees ² '000			Population served per employee Feb '01
		'Feb 97	'Feb 99	'Feb 01	
NSW	6 371.7	45.4	45.0	46.3	138
Vic	4 645.0	38.1	31.5	33.0	141
Qld	3 655.1	36.5	36.0	38.0	96
WA	1 851.3	13.6	13.5	13.5	137
SA	1 467.3	8.2	8.0	7.9	186
Tas	456.7	4.2	3.7	3.9	117
NT	210.7	1.9	2.5	2.5	84
Total	18 657.8	148.0	140.1	145.2	128

Sources:

1 Population data from Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001, *Australian demographic statistics*, cat. no. 3101.0, March quarter.

2 Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001, *Employed wage and salary earners, Australia: trend series*, cat. no. 6248.0, March.

Table 1.4 Selected characteristics of the distribution of population of local governing bodies¹
by State, 2001–02

State	Number of bodies	Population of local governing bodies					
		Minimum	First quartile ²	Median ³	Third quartile ⁴	Maximum	Average size
NSW	175	58	4 734	13 849	54 459	261 260	37 325
Vic	79	250	16 157	36 780	106 572	193 582	61 129
Qld	157	105	892	3 189	12 302	899 604	22 967
WA	142	141	1 013	2 727	11 433	178 380	13 449
SA	74	76	2 531	8 110	19 205	147 962	20 303
Tas	29	940	5 640	10 941	20 043	62 682	16 216
NT	66	0	271	498	1 036	74 002	2 998
All States	722	0	1 531	6 490	26 256	899 604	26 381

Notes:

- 1 Includes all local governing bodies that received financial assistance grant funding in 2001–02.
- 2 The first quartile is the population size at which 25 per cent of councils have smaller populations and 75 per cent have larger populations.
- 3 The median is the population size at which 50 per cent of councils have smaller populations and 50 per cent have larger populations.
- 4 The third quartile is the population size at which 75 per cent of councils have smaller populations and 25 per cent have larger populations.

Table 1.4 shows different characteristics of the distribution of local governing bodies by population within States and across all States. The median is 2 727 in Western Australia and 3 189 in Queensland. This means that 50 per cent of local governing bodies have fewer than 2 727 people in Western Australia and fewer than 3 189 in Queensland.

In the late 1990s, the number of councils in South Australia declined from 118 to 68 as a result of a voluntary structural reform process. Despite this reduction, the median of the population for local governing bodies in South Australia is 8 110, which is less than the median for Tasmania and New South Wales and considerably less than the median for Victoria of 36 780.

Area

Table 1.5 provides some of the characteristics of the area of local governing bodies in Australia. It shows that, like population, the area of local governing bodies varies considerably across States.

Nationally, the average area of local governing bodies is just under 7500 hectares. However, 50 per cent of local governing bodies have an area less than 1640 hectares. The Shire with the largest area is East Pilbara in Western Australia with 378 533 hectares. The table shows that the minimum for many States is 0 hectares. Some local governing bodies are recorded as having no area because their boundaries are not defined (for example, Indigenous community councils) or they do not have a responsibility for providing property services within a particular area of land (Outback Areas Community Development Trust in South Australia).

Table 1.5 Selected characteristics of the distribution of the area of local governing bodies¹
by State, 2001–02, in hectares

State	Number of bodies	Area of local governing bodies					
		Minimum	First quartile ²	Median ³	Third quartile ⁴	Maximum	Average size
NSW	175	0	194	2 481	4 328	53 511	4 046
Vic	79	0	114	1 529	4 140	22 093	2 882
Qld	157	0	161	2 200	10 504	117 087	11 048
WA	142	2	853	2 000	6 924	378 533	17 515
SA	74	0	56	984	3 831	8 902	2 107
Tas	29	80	654	1 158	3 556	9 750	2 379
NT	66	0	4	47	153	2 115	143
All States	722	0	94	1 640	4 403	378 533	7 468

Note: See notes for Table 1.4.

Diversity

In addition to size and population, other significant differences between local governing bodies include:

- range and scale of functions
- councils' fiscal position (including wide disparity in revenue-raising capacity), resources and skills base
- physical, economic, social and cultural environments of Local Government areas
- attitudes and aspirations of local communities
- structures of power and influence within local communities and the extent to which elected representatives reflect a broad range of opinion
- State legislative frameworks within which councils operate, including voting rights and electoral systems.

Indigenous councils also are established under different arrangements in each of the States.

Diversity is as great within States as it is between States and goes beyond rural/metropolitan differences. Table 1.6 gives some flavour of this diversity, showing, for a selection of councils, the range of areas, populations, local road lengths, income from rates and financial assistance grants per capita. For example, the population of a metropolitan council such as East Fremantle of 6660 is similar to that of a rural agricultural council like Buloke of 7268 despite the disparity in area: 3 sq km and 8002 sq km respectively.

Total grants per capita in remote areas are significantly higher than urban, regional or rural areas. This can be explained by the need for assistance in accessing services in remote areas such as Murchison in Western Australia with a population of 145 and an area of 43 800 sq km. Per capita grant versus per capita rate income varies significantly. Appendix D lists all councils, the area they cover, their population, their local road length and details of financial assistance grants they receive.

Table 1.6 Characteristics of selected councils, 2001-02

Council	State	Classification	Population	Area (sq km)	Road length (km)	Road		2001-02 actual entitlement			
						income (\$)	Rate income (\$/capita)	General purpose (\$)	Roads (\$)	Total grant (\$)	Grant per capita
Monash #	VIC	Metropolitan developed	163570	82	652	37202000	227.44	2,461,774	790,281	3,252,055	19.88
East Fremantle #	WA	Metropolitan developed	6660	3	36	3524509	529.21	100,199	49,771	149,970	22.52
Gosford City	NSW	Urban fringe	160167	940	1036	38498960	240.37	6,242,164	1,431,404	7,673,568	47.91
Adelaide Hills	SA	Urban fringe	37914	796	1102	11372863	299.96	959,777	474,546	1,434,323	37.83
East Gippsland	VIC	Regional town	39083	20946	3460	11476000	293.63	4,475,769	2,684,818	7,160,587	183.21
Glenorchy #	TAS	Regional town	43878	2522	290	25607000	583.60	659,441	798,512	1,457,953	33.23
Roxby Downs #	SA	Regional town	4160	110	34	1289000	309.86	62,826	33,731	96,557	23.21
Surf Coast	VIC	Rural growth	19935	1554	986	7501000	376.27	1,023,638	854,293	1,877,931	94.20
Busselton	WA	Rural growth	22751	1454	955	8779283	385.89	353,420	749,829	1,103,249	48.49
Buloke	VIC	Rural agricultural	7268	8002	5427	3988000	548.71	1,737,663	1,174,447	2,912,110	400.68
Bogan Shire	NSW	Rural agricultural	3219	14611	1410	1368915	425.26	1,188,176	852,664	2,040,840	634.00
Central Darling Shire	NSW	Remote	2354	53509	1602	612633	260.25	1,664,920	920,344	2,585,264	1098.24
Murchison	WA	Remote	145	43800	1721	67869	468.06	775,983	426,822	1,202,805	8295.21

Note: # = Minimum grant

Source: Derived from State Grants Commission unpublished data

Electorate representation

Councils have several electoral structures, including more than one structure in a single State. They also have widely different levels of representation. Table 1.7 illustrates the great variety across the country. For instance, Victoria has just over twice as many councillors as Tasmania despite a population nearly 10 times greater. The average number of councillors per council varies less markedly from a low of eight in Victoria to a high of 11 in the Northern Territory and South Australia.

Not only do the responsibilities of councillors differ, but their terms of office and method of election vary from State to State with election by ward in some States and direct election of mayors in some councils.

National representation of Local Government

ALGA and LGMA

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is a federation of local governing body associations from each of Australia's six States and the Northern Territory. Since early 2001 the ALGA membership has included the Australian Capital Territory Government. The association aims to add value, at the national level, to the work of State and Territory associations and their member councils. ALGA represents the interests of Local Government through its participation in the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) framework.

Table 1.7 Local Government average councillor numbers and population by State, 2001–02

State	Population	Number of councils ¹	Number of councillors	Average number of councillors per council	Average population per councillor
NSW	6 532 459	172	1 760	10	3 712
Vic	4 828 968	79	594	8	8 130
Qld	3 627 816	134	1 160	9	3 127
WA	1 909 751	142	1 368	10	1 396
SA	1 502 397	69	753	11	1 995
Tas	470 272	29	274	10	1 716
NT	197 590	65	735	11	269
Total	19 069 253	690	6 644	10	2 870

Note:

1 Council numbers from Local Government authorities exclude some non-affiliated local governing bodies and do not cover all 722 local governing bodies that receive financial assistance grants.

Sources: Local Government Associations (November 2002)

Australian Bureau of Statistics. Population Census August 2001

The Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) is a professional association of Local Government managers throughout Australia and the Asia-Pacific. The LGMA is committed to the development and improvement of Local Government management and the maintenance of high professional and ethical standards.

Council of Australian Governments (COAG)

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) is the peak inter-governmental forum in Australia. It comprises the Prime Minister, State Premiers, Territory Chief Ministers and the ALGA President. The role of COAG is to initiate, develop and monitor the implementation of policy reforms that are of national significance and that require cooperative action by Australian governments.

Issues considered by COAG generally arise from international treaties that affect the States and Territories, initiatives of one government that impact on other governments, and Ministerial Council deliberations. Ministerial Councils are regular meetings of Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers sharing common responsibilities.

More than 40 Commonwealth–State Ministerial Councils and forums facilitate consultation and cooperation between governments. Ministerial Councils initiate, develop and monitor policy reform and take joint action to resolve issues that arise between governments. In particular, they develop policy reforms for consideration by COAG and oversee the implementation of policy reforms agreed to by COAG.

Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council

In June 2001, COAG announced the streamlining of Ministerial Councils. Ministerial Councils in related functional fields were combined to strengthen their strategic direction and improve opportunities for cooperative policy development.

The Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council is an amalgamation of the former Local Government Ministers' Conference and the Planning Ministers' Conference. The Council includes Federal, State and Territory Ministers, the New Zealand Minister and the ALGA President. The scope and objectives of the Council, which is yet to meet, will be considered at the first Council meeting.

The Council is supported by the Local Government Joint Officers Group (LOGJOG) and the Planning Officials Group (POG), comprising senior officers from Commonwealth, State, Territory and the New Zealand departments with responsibility for Local Government and planning matters, and a senior representative from ALGA.

Other Ministerial Councils

In its review of Ministerial Councils, COAG agreed that Local Government be represented on Ministerial Councils where there is a clear Local Government interest. Other than where membership is explicitly set out by statute or agreement, it is up to individual Ministerial Councils to decide whether ALGA should be a member or attend proceedings.

Within the Transport and Regional Services portfolio, in addition to being a member of the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council, ALGA is also a member of the Regional Development Council and an observer on the Australian Transport Council.

Local Government finances

Local Government's share of taxation revenue

In 2000-01, Local Government's share of taxation revenue, all raised from land rates, was \$6.4 billion – this is 3.0 per cent of taxes raised across all levels of government. This continued a trend of Local Government receiving a declining share of total taxation revenue. The decline in Local Government's share of taxation over the past three years is evident in Figure 1.1, where it has fallen from 3.2 per cent in 1998-99 to 3.1 per cent in 1999-2000 to 3 per cent in 2000-01.

Funding from the Commonwealth

The Commonwealth Government provides considerable financial assistance to Local Government through Local Government financial assistance grants, specific purpose payments and direct programme funding.

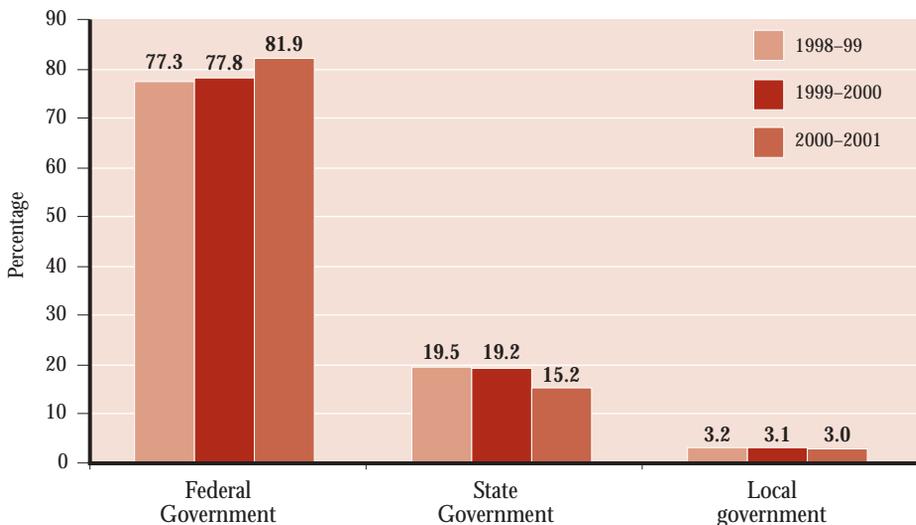
Local Government financial assistance grants

In 2001-02 the Commonwealth provided almost \$1.4 billion in Local Government financial assistance grants to local governing bodies. These grants are administered through the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. More information on the means of distributing financial assistance grants is contained in Chapter 2.

Specific Purpose Payments

Commonwealth Specific Purpose Payments (SPPs) to Local Governments are either made direct to local governing bodies (eg Roads to Recovery Programme funding) or through the States (for example, Local Government financial assistance grants and Regional Flood Mitigation Programme payments). Direct Commonwealth SPP funding to Local Governments in 2000-01 amounted to over \$502 million (see Table 1.8). This assistance recognises the work of Local Government in providing such services as child

Figure 1.1 Composition of taxation revenue, by sphere of Government, 1998-99 to 2000-01



Note: The increase in Federal taxation revenue and corresponding decrease in State revenue in 2000-01 is due to the introduction of the GST. All GST revenue, amounting to \$23.9 billion in 2000-01, is provided to the States. GST constitutes approximately half of total Commonwealth funding to the States.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat. no. 5506.0

Table 1.8 Specific Purpose Payments direct to Local Government Authorities, 2001-02 (\$'000)

Payment Title	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
Direct Payments – Current									
Aged care services	7 195	11 354	1 663	3 787	1 288	1 720	169	663	27 839
Disability services	522	113	349	0	0	0	0	0	984
Children's services	16 475	18 208	4 858	3 451	894	2 450	288	996	47 620
Local Government Incentive Programme	472	552	526	308	443	227	491	266	3 385
Roads to Recovery Programme	107 789	82 874	99 249	59 669	35 871	14 216	5 465	11 206	416 339
Total Current	132 453	113 101	106 645	67 215	38 496	18 613	6 413	13 131	496 067
Direct Payments – Capital									
Aged care services	1 276	127	0	0	0	0	0	20	1 423
Children's services	328	362	97	69	18	49	6	20	949
Natural Heritage & Water Park, Goondiwindi	0	0	4 150	0	0	0	0	0	4 150
Total Capital	1 604	489	4 247	69	18	49	6	40	6 522
Total Direct Payments	134 057	113 590	110 892	67 284	38 514	18 662	6 419	13 171	502 589

Source: 2001-02 Final Budget Outcome, Department of Finance and Administration

care, aged care, care for the disabled, natural disaster relief and for local roads. Of the direct SPPs paid to local governing authorities, more than \$400 million was provided under the Roads to Recovery Programme and this accounts for the significant increase from the previous year, up from \$111 million.

Other programme funding

Local Government is eligible to receive and apply for funding from a wide range of Commonwealth Government programmes, such as the Black Spot Programme, Regional Solutions Programme and Rural Transaction Centres Programme. However, details of the funding received by Local Government are not tabulated.

Information about the extensive range of Commonwealth funding programmes can be found at www.grantslink.com.au. Information on Commonwealth programmes is also available in the Department of Transport and Regional Services publication, *Commonwealth Assistance for Local Projects 2001-02*. (A copy is at the DOTARS website at www.dotars.gov.au/nolg/publications/calp/index.htm.)

State funding

Table 1.9 provides details of grants from the States to Local Government by type of service in 2000-01. Commonwealth funding provided to local governing bodies through the States, including some \$1.3 billion paid in Local Government financial assistance grants in

2000–01, is incorporated into the figures. The remaining State grants directed to Local Government are for a broad range of purposes. While the focus of State grants varies significantly from State to State and from year to year, one of the major areas of funding remains transport and communication.

The States provided some \$1.45 billion to Local Government out of their own funds, representing an increase of 18 per cent over the previous year. On a per capita basis, State grants vary considerably, from \$15 per capita in South Australia to \$160 per capita in Queensland.

Table 1.9 Grants from States to Local Governments, by purpose, 2000–01 (\$m)

Purpose	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
General public services	2	11	9	182	–	–	–	204
Fire protection	63	–	–	–	–	–	–	63
Public order and safety	–	1	3	–	1	–	–	5
Water/Sanitation/ Environment	134	1	190	–	3	4	–	332
Social security and welfare	–	63	44	–	8	–	–	115
Recreation and culture	23	78	49	–	11	3	–	164
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7	6	10	–	–	–	–	23
Transport and communication	156	36	129	52	3	2	–	378
Road Maintenance	118	–	176	99	19	22	–	434
Other natural disaster relief	11	6	–	–	–	–	–	17
General purpose inter- government transactions	311	–	179	–	71	29	41	631
Other community development	2	311	–	–	–	–	–	313
Other economic affairs	12	5	6	–	–	–	–	23
Other	2	–	37	–	–	–	6	45
Total	841	518	832	333	116	60	47	2 747
<i>Less Commonwealth financial assistance grants</i>								
General purpose grants	311	229	171	90	72	23	9	905
Local road funding	118	84	76	62	22	22	9	393
Net State grants	412	205	585	181	22	15	29	1 449
Net State grant per capita ¹	\$64.66	\$44.13	\$160.05	\$97.77	\$14.99	\$32.84	\$137.64	\$77.66

Note: 1 From State population figures at Table 1.3

Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics unpublished data

Local Government revenue

There is a wide disparity in councils' ability to raise revenue due largely to differences between urban, rural and remote councils in the rating base and ability to levy user charges as well as the cost of providing services.

In 2000–01, there was little change from the previous year in the average proportions of revenue Local Government raised from taxes (primarily rates), sale of goods and services, interest, grants and subsidies, and other sources.

The circumstances of individual councils do, however, vary considerably from the national averages. While indications of these variations can be obtained from the State and Territory data in Figure 1.2 and Table 1.10, it should be noted that significant variations exist between councils within each State and in the Northern Territory.

The proportion of revenue raised by Local Government from taxation varied appreciably between the States, from a high of 57.4 per cent for South Australia down to 26.7 per cent for the Northern Territory. Revenue from grants was close to the average of 12.7 per cent for all States

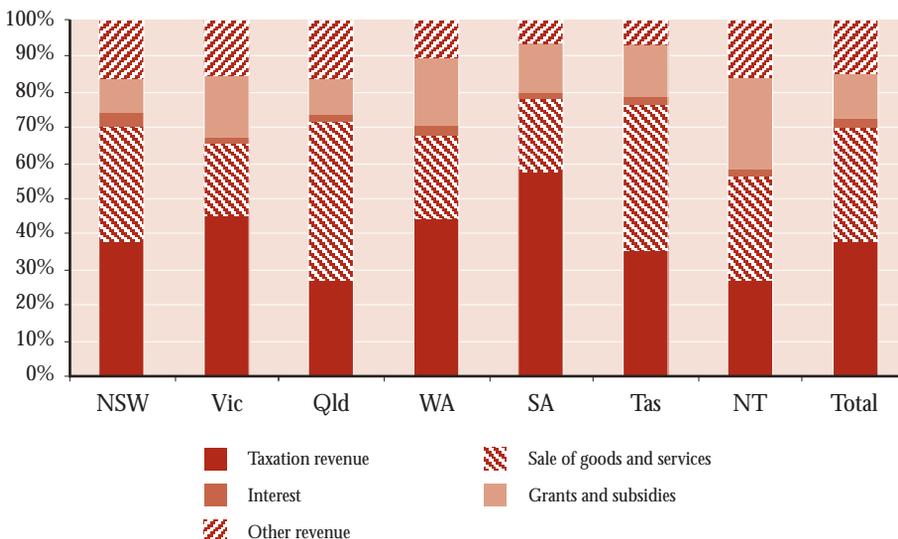
with the primary exception of the Northern Territory, where grant revenue accounted for 25.5 per cent of total revenue (see Table 1.10).

Table 1.11 shows that on a per capita basis, taxation revenue is similar for all States at about \$340 per capita. The Northern Territory continued to have the lowest taxation revenue per capita of \$221, whilst South Australia remained the State with the highest per capita taxation revenue for Local Government of \$364 per person.

Local Government received a significant proportion of revenue from the sale of goods and services. It represents on average close to one-third of council revenue, with Tasmania and Queensland receiving more than 40 per cent of their revenue in 2000–01 from these sources. This may be because, in those States, Local Government has responsibility for provision of water and sewerage services.

In 2000–01, \$2.15 billion in grants was provided to Local Government. Revenue from government grants, at almost 12 per cent of total Local Government revenue, continues to be

Figure 1.2 Local Government revenue by source, 2000–01



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics cat. no. 5512.0

Table 1.10 Local Government revenue sources, 2000–01 (\$m)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
Taxation revenue	2 176	1 543	1 248	669	545	164	43	6 388
(%)	(37.7)	(45.1)	(26.9)	(44.2)	(57.4)	(35.3)	(26.7)	(37.7)
Sale of goods and services	1 880	692	2 074	355	193	191	47	5 433
(%)	(32.5)	(20.2)	(44.7)	(23.5)	(20.3)	(41.1)	(29.2)	(32.1)
Interest	217	55	84	44	19	10	3	433
(%)	(3.8)	(1.6)	(1.8)	(2.9)	(2.0)	(2.2)	(1.9)	(2.6)
Grants and subsidies	553	598	473	284	130	68	41	2 147
(%)	(9.6)	(17.5)	(10.2)	(18.8)	(13.7)	(14.6)	(25.5)	(12.7)
Other revenue*	953	532	764	161	62	32	26	2 530
(%)	(16.5)	(15.6)	(16.5)	(10.6)	(6.5)	(6.9)	(16.1)	(14.9)
Total	5 779	3 419	4 644	1 513	949	465	161	16 930

Note:

* Australian Bureau of Statistics advises that almost 30 per cent of other revenue comprised revenue from capital grants plus almost 20 per cent assets acquired below fair value. Half of other revenue was from fees for transport, water supply and sanitation.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Government finance statistics*, cat. no. 5512.0

Table 1.11 Local Government revenue sources, \$ per capita, 2000–01

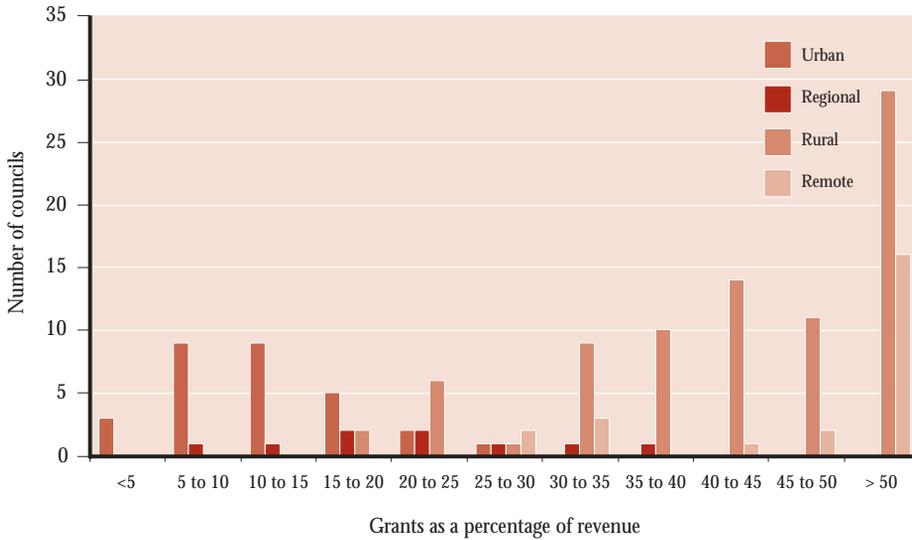
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Average
Taxation revenue	338.23	325.75	352.91	357.56	364.25	348.38	221.31	340.90
Sale of goods and services	292.22	146.09	586.49	189.74	128.99	405.74	241.90	289.93
Interest	33.73	11.61	23.75	23.52	12.70	21.24	15.44	23.11
Grants and subsidies	85.96	126.25	133.76	151.79	86.89	144.45	211.02	114.57
Other revenue	148.13	112.31	216.04	86.05	41.44	67.98	133.82	135.01
Total	898.26	721.81	1 313.23	808.65	634.27	987.79	828.63	903.47

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Government finance statistics*, cat. no. 5512.0

a significant source of income to Local Governments, especially for rural and regional communities. In some rural and remote areas, Government grants can constitute more than 50 per cent of revenue for some councils.

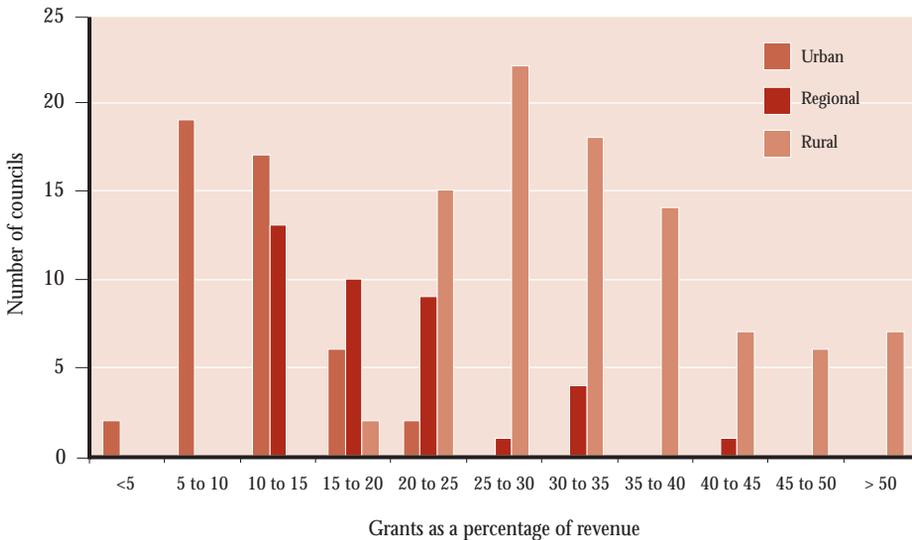
In general, urban councils have the greatest degree of financial autonomy. Figures 1.3 and 1.4 show the distribution of the proportion of total Local Government revenue derived from Government grants for NSW and WA councils.

Figure 1.3 Commonwealth and State Grants as a proportion of revenue for WA councils by council classification, 2000–01



Source: unpublished information provided by the Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission

Figure 1.4 Distribution of the proportion of revenue from Government grants for NSW councils, 2000–01

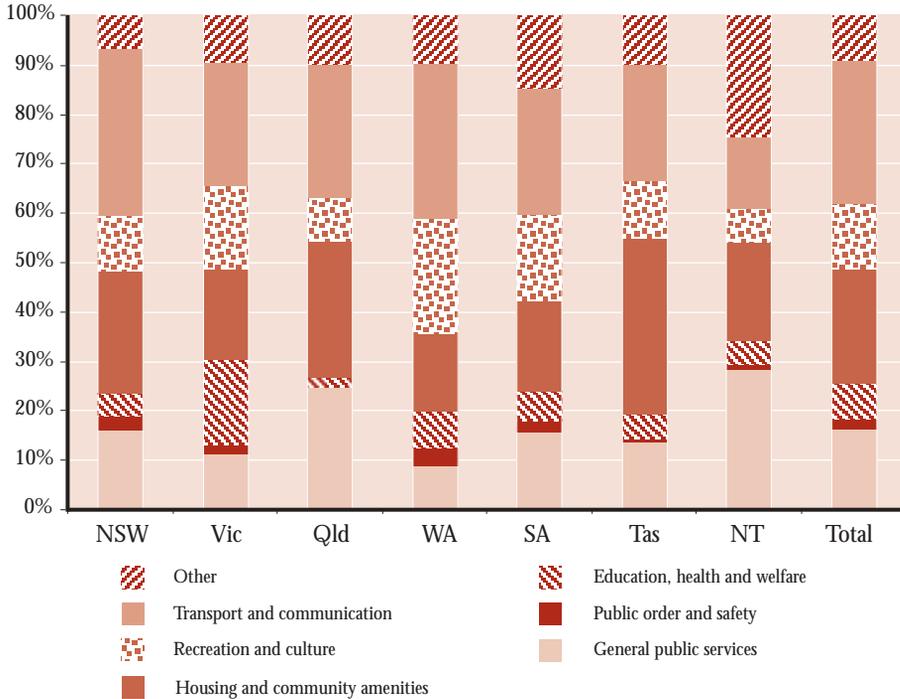


Source: Comparative information 2000–01, NSW Department of Local Government

Local Government expenditure

Australia-wide, the main categories of Local Government expenditure continue to be transport and communication (almost 30 per cent) and housing and community amenities (23 per cent). See Figure 1.5 and Table 1.12.

Figure 1.5 Local Government expenditure, by purpose, 2000–01



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Government finance statistics, cat. no. 5512.0

Table 1.13 shows that on a per capita basis, expenditure on general public services varies considerably between a low of \$65.78 per capita in Western Australia to a high of \$357.89 in the Northern Territory. Per capita expenditure on education, health and welfare in Victoria of \$124.05 was much higher than the other States and Territories. Also of note is the high per capita housing and community amenities expenditures in Queensland and Tasmania, at \$315.25 and \$342.55 respectively.

Local Government assets and liabilities

In 2000–01 Local Government in Australia had a net worth of over \$147.5 billion with net assets of \$156.7 billion and liabilities of \$9.1 billion (see Tables 1.14 and 1.15). A positive indicator is that the growth of assets from 1999–2000 (3.3 per cent) was greater than the growth of liabilities (2.2 per cent).

Table 1.12 General Local Government expenditure, by purpose, 2000–01 (\$m)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
General public services	834	377	946	123	153	61	68	2 562
(%)	(16.0)	(11.1)	(23.5)	(8.6)	(15.8)	(13.4)	(28.2)	(16.3)
Public order and safety	134	57	44	54	21	2	2	314
(%)	(2.6)	(1.7)	(1.1)	(3.8)	(2.2)	(0.4)	(0.8)	(2.0)
Education, health and welfare	259	588	78	108	56	25	12	1 126
(%)	(5.0)	(17.3)	(1.9)	(7.5)	(5.8)	(5.5)	(5.0)	(7.2)
Housing and community amenities	1 276	622	1 116	226	180	161	48	3 629
(%)	(24.5)	(18.3)	(27.7)	(15.7)	(18.5)	(35.5)	(20.0)	(23.1)
Recreation and culture	595	573	359	331	167	53	17	2 096
(%)	(11.4)	(16.9)	(8.9)	(23.0)	(17.2)	(11.7)	(7.1)	(13.3)
Transport and Communication	1 753	849	1 083	455	249	106	35	4 530
(%)	(33.7)	(25.0)	(26.9)	(31.7)	(25.6)	(23.3)	(14.5)	(28.8)
Other	351	325	404	140	145	46	59	1 469
(%)	(6.7)	(9.6)	(10.0)	(9.7)	(14.9)	(10.1)	(24.5)	(9.3)
Total	5 202	3 391	4 030	1 437	971	454	241	15 726

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Government finance statistics*, cat. no. 5512.0**Table 1.13** Local Government expenditure, \$ per capita, 2000–01

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Average
General public services	129.70	79.53	267.23	65.78	102.00	129.79	357.89	136.71
Public order & safety	20.84	12.03	12.43	28.88	14.00	4.26	10.53	16.76
Education, health & welfare	40.28	124.05	22.03	57.75	37.33	53.19	63.16	60.09
Housing & community amenities	198.44	131.22	315.25	120.86	120.00	342.55	252.63	193.65
Recreation & culture	92.53	120.89	101.41	177.01	111.33	112.77	89.47	111.85
Transport & communication	272.63	179.11	305.93	243.32	166.00	225.53	184.21	241.73
Other	54.59	68.57	114.12	74.87	96.67	97.87	310.53	78.39
Total	809.02	715.40	1 138.42	768.45	647.33	965.96	1 268.42	839.17

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Government finance statistics*, cat. no. 5512.0

Table 1.14 Local Government assets and liabilities, 2000–01 (\$m)

Assets	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
Financial assets								
Cash and deposits	291	428	1134	168	29	40	37	2 126
Advances paid		4				3		7
Investments, loans and placements	3 140	534	236	436	58	101	46	4 552
Other non-equity assets	610	549	435	160	67	45	9	1 874
Equity					11			11
<i>Total</i>	<i>4 041</i>	<i>1 515</i>	<i>1 805</i>	<i>764</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>8 571</i>
Non-financial assets								
Land and fixed assets	63 123	28 044	32 647	10 454	8 030	3 955	927	147 180
Other non-financial assets	920			8		4	5	936
<i>Total</i>	<i>64 043</i>	<i>28 044</i>	<i>32 647</i>	<i>10 462</i>	<i>8 030</i>	<i>3 958</i>	<i>932</i>	<i>148 115</i>
Total	68 084	29 559	34 452	11 226	8 194	4 148	1 023	156 686
Liabilities								
Deposits held		48			145	3		196
Advances received	25	7			11	(1)		42
Borrowing	1 428	611	3 000	219	69	207	11	5 546
Unfunded superannuation liability	703	269	362	81	69	35	9	1 529
Other provisions	74		7	2	7	6		96
Other non-equity liabilities	638	382	364	165	96	17	18	1 680
<i>Total</i>	<i>2 868</i>	<i>1 316</i>	<i>3 773</i>	<i>468</i>	<i>397</i>	<i>267</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>9 088</i>
Shares and other contributed capital			40					40
GFS net worth	65 216	28 243	30 679	10 758	7 797	3 881	985	147 558
Net debt	(1 978)	(301)	1 630	(385)	138	65	(71)	(903)
Net financial worth	1173	199	(1968)	296	(233)	(77)	54	(557)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Government finance statistics*, cat. no. 5512.0

Table 1.15 Financial assets and liabilities for Local Government, 30 June 1994 to 30 June 2001 (\$m)

Year	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Gross debt	6 757	6 435	6 080	6 182	6 307	6 168	7 452	7 504
Total cash, deposits and lending	4 922	4 854	5 814	5 524	5 451	5 940	8 982	9 507
Net debt (worth)	1 835	1 581	266	658	856	228	(1 530)	(2 003)

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Government finance statistics*, cat. no. 5512.0

CHAPTER 2

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS
TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

In 2001–02, the Federal Government provided \$1.394 billion nationally in financial assistance to Local Government – on average, about \$72 per capita or \$1.93 million per council. These financial assistance grants were paid through the States and have two components – general purpose grants and identified local road grants. In 2001–02, the general purpose grants were \$965.8 million and identified local roads grants were \$428.6 million.

The objective of general purpose assistance from the Federal Government to Local Government is to strengthen Local Government to enable it to provide a wider range of services and to promote equity between councils and certainty of funding (see box ‘Objects of the Act’, p.21). These grants are untied in the hands of the receiving council – that is, councils are able to spend the grant according to the priorities of their communities.

The general purpose grants began in 1974–75 with allocations in the 1974 and 1975 Budgets distributed according to Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC) recommendations. This was followed, over the next two decades, by development in legislative arrangements for providing financial assistance to Local Government. These grants are currently provided

under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (the Act), which replaced the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986* and came into effect from 1 July 1995.

From July 1991, as a result of a decision at the 1990 Special Premiers’ Conference, local roads grants to Local Government were provided under the 1986 Act (as amended). These grants are intended to help councils with the cost of maintaining their local roads but, as they are also untied, councils are not required to spend them on local roads.

In 2000–01, the CGC reviewed the operation of the 1995 Act and handed its report to the Government in June 2001.¹ In May 2002, the Federal Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government announced an inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting to be conducted by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economic, Finance and Public Administration. The inquiry is to look at the financial position of Local Government. One of the terms of reference for the inquiry is to examine the findings of the CGC review of the Act. The Committee is to take into account the views of interested parties. The Inquiry is discussed further in Chapter 6.

1 Commonwealth Grants Commission 2001, Review of the operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

Overview of current arrangements

In determining the distribution of grants to councils, the current arrangements are:

1. At the beginning of each financial year, the Federal Government determines the quantum of general purpose and local roads grants estimated to be available for Local Government nationally. This is equal to the quantum of the grants received nationally in the previous financial year adjusted by an estimated escalation factor.
2. The estimated quantum of general purpose and local roads grants for each State is then calculated according to requirements of the Federal legislation, and these amounts are advised to States.
3. Local Government Grants Commissions in each State determine the allocation of general purpose and local roads grants among local governing bodies in their State.
4. The Local Government Grants Commission recommendations are then sent by the State Minister to the Federal Minister for approval.
5. Once these grants have been approved by the Federal Minister, quarterly payments are made by the Federal Government to the States and, without undue delay, these are passed on by the States to local governing bodies as untied grants.
6. Toward the end of the financial year, the escalation factor is revised and the final quantum of the grants for the financial year is recalculated.
7. An adjustment to the allocations to local governing bodies is made and their payments in the following year adjusted.

More details on these steps are given in the sections that follow.

Determining the quantum of the grant

Section 8 of the Act specifies the formula to be applied by the Federal Treasurer each year to determine the increase in the level of Local Government financial assistance grants. Up to and including 1999–2000, the annual increase in Local Government grants was based on the increase in financial assistance grants and special revenue assistance to the States.

Since 1994–95, these State grants have increased annually in line with population and consumer price index movements. Grants to Local Government also increased in line with the State grants except for 1997–98, when Local Government grants were increased for inflation but not population growth.

Following the introduction of The New Tax System in July 2000, increases in State financial assistance grants are no longer related to the consumer price index and population. This link was abolished from 1 July 2000 under the terms of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on the Reform of Commonwealth–State Financial Relations*. The States now receive the goods and services tax (GST) revenue.

In June 2000, the Act was amended to remove the nexus between movements in the Local Government financial assistance grants and State grants. The escalation factor for Local Government financial assistance is now on a real per capita basis similar to that previously operating for the State grants.

As with the existing provisions, the amended Act provides the Treasurer with discretion to increase or decrease the escalation factor in special circumstances. In applying that discretion, the Treasurer is required to have regard to the objects of the Act (see box ‘Objects of the Act’, p.21) and any other matters thought relevant. The same escalation factor is applied to both the general purpose and local roads components of the grant.

Objects of the Act

Subsection 3(2) of the Act explains the objects of the Parliament in enacting the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*:

‘The Parliament wishes to provide financial assistance to the States for the purposes of improving:

- the financial capacity of local governing bodies; and
- the capacity of local governing bodies to provide their residents with an equitable level of services; and
- the certainty of funding for local governing bodies; and
- the efficiency and effectiveness of local governing bodies; and
- the provision by local governing bodies of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.’

Determining entitlements for 2001–02 and 2002–03

Actual entitlements for 2001–02 and estimated entitlements for 2002–03 are calculated using the respective final factor and estimated factor, which are determined in accordance with the Act.

The factors used and the entitlements calculated for the 2001–02 actual entitlement and the 2002–03 estimated entitlement are set out in Figures 2.1 and 2.2 respectively. In determining the final factor for 2001–02, the Treasurer exercised the discretion available to him under the Act to increase the factor (see box ‘Determining the final factor for 2001–02’, p.24).

The estimated entitlement for 2001–02 was \$1.375 billion, comprising \$952 million in general purpose grants and \$423 million in local roads grants (see Figure 3.2 in the 2000–01 Local Government National Report). In 2001–02 the Federal Government paid this amount in grants to Local Government through the States in respect of that year. However, at the end of 2001–02 and once the final factor for 2001–02 had been determined, the final entitlement for 2001–02 was calculated as \$1.394 billion, comprising \$966 million in general purpose grant and \$429 million in local roads grants (see Figure 2.1). As a result, Local Government had been underpaid \$19.5 million in 2001–02, comprising \$13.5 million in general purpose grants and \$6.0 million in local roads grants.

The estimated entitlement for 2002–03 is \$1.449 billion, comprising \$1004 million in general purpose grants and \$445 in local roads grants (see Figure 2.2). The actual cash paid to Local Government from the Federal Government in 2002–03 will be \$1.469 billion. That is, \$1.449 billion in estimated entitlement for 2002–03 plus the \$19.5 million underpaid in 2001–02 (see box ‘Calculation of grants’, p.24).

Figure 2.1 Calculation of financial assistance grants, actual entitlements for 2001–02

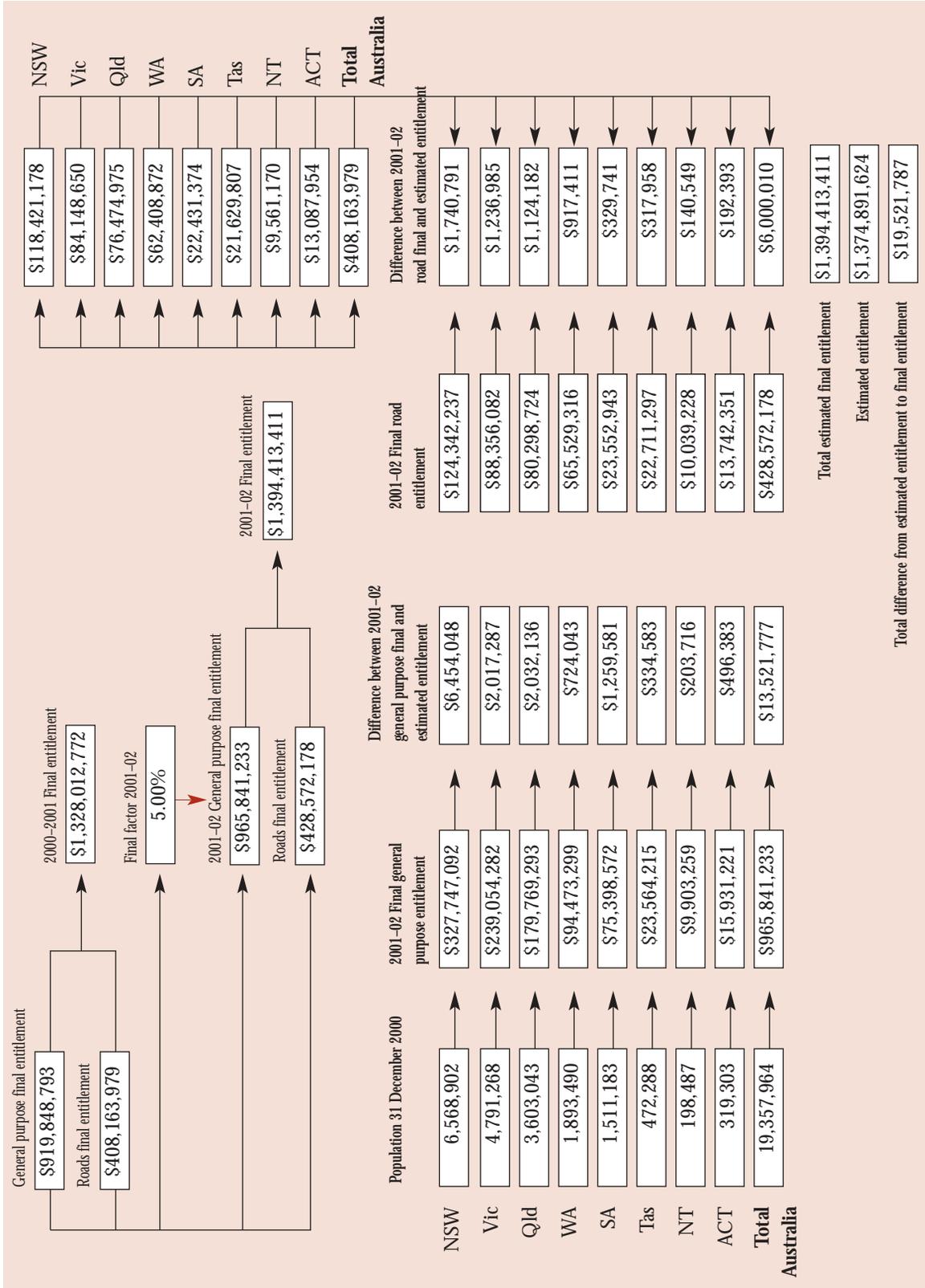
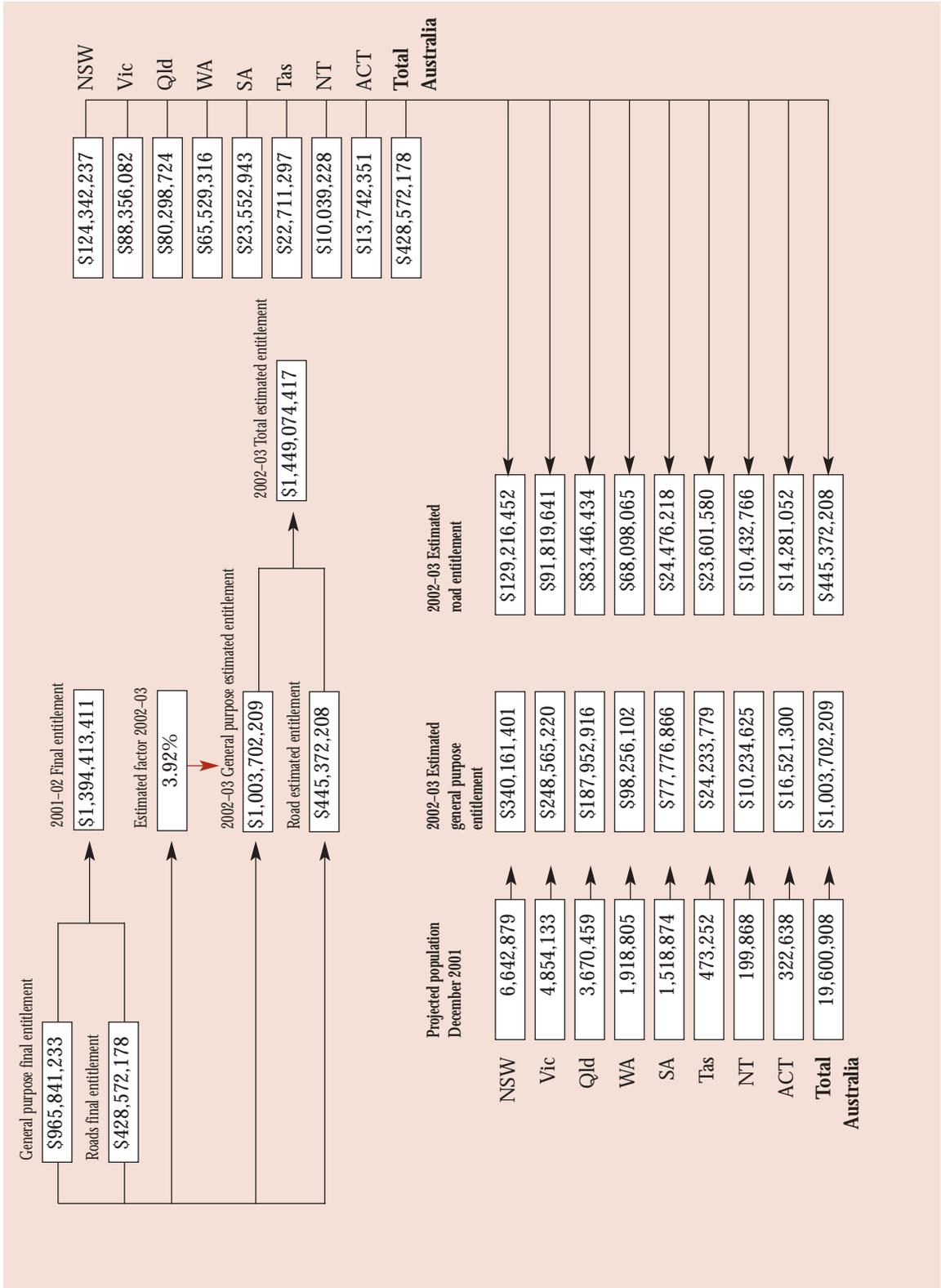


Figure 2.2 Calculation of financial assistance grants, estimated entitlements for 2002-03



Determining the final factor for 2001–02

Consistent with section 8 of the Act, the final factor for 2001–02 is calculated as:

$$\text{final factor} = \frac{\text{population of Australia at 31 Dec 2000}}{\text{population of Australia at 31 Dec 1999}} \times \frac{\text{CPI at March 2002}}{\text{CPI at March 2001}}$$

That is,

$$\text{final factor} = \frac{19,357,964}{19,048,856} \times \frac{136.6}{132.7} = 1.0461$$

However, the Treasurer used the discretion provided by paragraph 8(1)(c) of the Act to increase the final factor for 2001–02 to 1.0500. The adjusted final factor used a consumer price index that excluded the estimated impact of the indirect tax reform measures in The New Tax System. This is regarded as a more appropriate measure of the costs faced by councils.

Calculation of grants

Each year, the quantum of the grant to Local Government is determined at the start of the financial year, using a formula based on estimates of the consumer price index and population increases for the year. Councils are advised, usually in August, of the grant to be paid that financial year.

At the end of each year the estimated grant for Local Government is adjusted to an 'actual' entitlement, calculated using the actual consumer price index and population figures.

Inevitably there is a difference between the estimated and actual grant entitlements. This difference is added to or subtracted from the grant paid to the State in the following year.

Therefore for each year there is an estimated grant entitlement, an actual grant entitlement and an actual grant paid.

Interstate distribution of the grants

The Act specifies that the national allocation of the general purpose component of the grant is to be divided amongst the States on a per capita basis. This uses the Australian Bureau of Statistics' estimate of each State's population and the estimated population of all States as at 31 December of the previous year.

In contrast, the State shares of the local roads component of the grant are fixed. The distribution is determined on the basis of shares inherited from the former, tied grant arrangements (see box 'History of the Interstate Distribution of Local Roads Grants', p.25). Therefore, each State's share of the local roads component is obtained by multiplying the previous year's funding by the escalation factor determined by the Treasurer.

History of the Interstate Distribution of Local Roads Grants

The history of State shares of road grants dates back to 1923. According to the 1986 Report of the Inquiry into the Distribution of Federal Road Grants (the 'Cameron Report') 'The 1923 Commonwealth road grants legislation allocated grants on the basis of three-fifths according to population and two-fifths according to area.' In 1959, reliable data on vehicle registrations became available and Commonwealth legislation divided the funds between the States on the basis of one-third population, one-third area and one-third vehicles on register. However, this formula did not apply to Tasmania, which received 5 per cent of the grants (pp. 48–49 of the Cameron Report).

Annual Federal grants to Local Government, first made in 1974, were grants for general purposes. The *Road Grants Act 1974* provided grants to the States for urban arterial, rural arterial, urban local roads and rural local road projects and some of these grants were passed on to Local Government. The grants were made following a 1973 Commonwealth Bureau of Roads Report on Roads in Australia, which had examined the needs of the whole road system.

The report suggested that 'the distribution of grants between the States [be] determined on the one hand by the distribution of the warranted and feasible road program and on the other, by taxable capacity as indicated by numbers of motor vehicles and people and by incomes per capita.' (p. 210). In other words, shares would be determined in part by actual needs (as modified by what was actually feasible in the time frame) and in part by future expenditure effort, with States being required to provide some matching funds. A special equalisation grant was suggested for Tasmania as it had 'the lowest level of income per head

and the highest road construction and maintenance costs' (p. 211).

Federal grants for local roads continued to grow over the next decade, and as they became an integral part of council budgets, councils sought greater clarity, predictability and control over the grants. This came in the 1980s as agreement was reached with the States on principles for the intrastate distribution of these grants to Local Government.

One issue that blurred transparency of the local roads grants was the fact that State road authorities were responsible for some local roads mainly those in unincorporated areas. The Cameron Report noted that 'Many local roads are the direct responsibility of State governments, mainly in areas not incorporated as local authorities' (p. 25). According to this report, the State was responsible for 2.5 per cent of the local road system in New South Wales, 5.1 per cent in Victoria, 12.2 per cent in Queensland, none in Western Australia, 12.1 per cent in South Australia and 6.1 per cent in Tasmania (p.26).

The Report noted 'In all except one of the States a significant amount of local roads grants is allocated to State road authorities. In two of the States, this is about one-third of the total' (p. 27). The amounts retained by State governments for local roads under their control were negotiated privately between the States and State Local Government Associations (p. 27). Therefore, Local Government shares were not separately identified in Federal departmental annual reports.

In 1987, the Bureau of Transport Economics prepared a report called *Assessment of the Australian Road System* (No.61, 1987). The

report noted that ‘The distribution of Commonwealth Local Government road grants among local authorities and States is based on formulae which broadly take into account, inter alia, both the population and road lengths of a particular area’ (p. 137). As an example of this, from 1977–78 through to 1990–91, South Australia’s share of the local roads grants across a number of Federal road programs ranged between 7.5 per cent and 8.1 per cent of the total local roads grants. In 1990–91, it was \$24.3 million or 7.5 per cent of a total local roads grant of \$323.8 million.

On 29 May 1991, the Federal Government introduced a Bill under which local roads grants would be separately identified and paid under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986*. The Second Reading Speech said the Local Government (Financial Assistance) Amendment Bill 1991 implemented the Special Premiers’ Conference decision ‘that funds for local roads would be untied and paid to Local Governments, or to State Governments where they are responsible for local roads, via general purpose grants.’

Federal Budget Paper No.1 for 1991–92 (p. 3–267) records that ‘Heads of Government agreed at the October 1990 Special Premiers’ Conference that Commonwealth funds for local roads be untied and paid at the same real level. Interim arrangements decided in April 1991, provide for a portion of these funds to be paid to the States from 1991–92 as grants in lieu of funding for local roads under their direct control (eg those in national parks and unincorporated areas).’

In 1991–92, \$39.4 million was provided in general revenue assistance to the States for local roads maintained by the States (p. 3–266). Payments to the States were as follows:
\$4.543 million in New South Wales;
\$2.653 million in Victoria; \$6.019 million

in Queensland; \$8.771 million in South Australia; \$5.193 million in Tasmania; and \$12.205 million in Northern Territory (Federal Budget paper No. 4, p. A–42). This led to a commensurate reduction in the amount available for Local Government financial assistance grants for local roads in each State except Western Australia. In the case of South Australia, its grant was reduced to \$17.7 million or 5.85% of the local roads funds provided under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986* in 1991–92.

There were some subsequent changes that enlarged the national local roads grant pool:

- In 1992–93, the Tasmanian Government restored all of its local roads grants to councils under the financial assistance grants. This is one reason why Local Government in Tasmania has a higher than expected share of the local road grants.
- In 1992–93, some of the grants in the Northern Territory (mostly for unincorporated Aboriginal councils) were returned to the local road financial assistance grants.
- In 1995–96, local roads grants were paid to the ACT Government for the first time under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

These changes had no effect on the entitlements or payments for the other States under the Act but did reduce their share of the local roads grant pool. For instance, the impact of these changes caused South Australia’s share to fall from 5.85% to 5.68% and finally to 5.5%.

In 1993–94, the payments to the States for local roads maintained by the States were untied and were subsumed within general purpose payments to the States.

Table 2.1 General purpose and local roads grants, allocation amongst States, 2001–02

State	General purpose grant			Local roads grant			Total grant		
	\$m	% of total	\$ per capita	\$m	% of total	\$ per capita	\$m	% of total	\$ per capita
NSW	327.7	33.9	49.89	124.3	29.0	18.92	452.1	32.4	68.82
Vic	239.1	24.8	49.89	88.4	20.6	18.44	327.4	23.5	68.33
Qld	179.8	18.6	49.89	80.3	18.7	22.29	260.1	18.7	72.18
WA	94.5	9.8	49.89	65.5	15.3	34.61	160.0	11.5	84.50
SA	75.4	7.8	49.89	23.6	5.5	15.59	99.0	7.1	65.48
Tas	23.6	2.4	49.89	22.7	5.3	48.09	46.3	3.3	97.98
NT	9.9	1.0	49.89	10.0	2.3	50.58	19.9	1.4	100.47
ACT	15.9	1.6	49.89	13.7	3.2	43.04	29.7	2.1	92.93
Total	965.8	100.0	49.89	428.6	100.0	22.14	1 394.4	100.0	72.03

Note: All variations are due to rounding adjustments

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Table 2.2 Estimated grant entitlements and percentage change from previous year by State, 2002–03

State	General purpose		Local roads		Total grant	
	\$m	% change	\$m	% change	(\$m)	% change
NSW	340.2	3.79	129.2	3.92	469.4	3.82
Vic	248.6	3.98	91.8	3.92	340.4	3.96
Qld	188.0	4.55	83.4	3.92	271.4	4.36
WA	98.3	4.00	68.1	3.92	166.4	3.97
SA	77.8	3.15	24.5	3.92	102.3	3.34
Tas	24.2	2.84	23.6	3.92	47.8	3.37
NT	10.2	3.35	10.4	3.92	20.7	3.64
ACT	16.5	3.70	14.3	3.92	30.8	3.80
Total	1 003.7	3.92	445.4	3.92	1 449.1	3.92

Note: All variations are due to rounding adjustments

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Table 2.1 shows the allocation of the final entitlement for 2001–02 amongst the States while Table 2.2 shows the allocation of the estimated entitlements for 2002–03 amongst the States. Table 2.2 also shows the percentage change in the grants from 2001–02 to 2002–03.

Table 2.3 provides the per capita relativities of the State allocations for the general purpose, local roads and total grants in 2001–02. The State per capita relativities for GST revenue are provided for comparison. The per capita relativity for a State is the ratio of the per capita grant for the

Table 2.3 Per capita relativities for general purpose, local roads, financial assistance grants and GST revenue, by State, 2001–02

State	Population as at 31 Dec 2000	General purpose per capita relativities	Local roads per capita relativities	Financial assistance grants per capita relativities	State GST revenue per capita relativities
NSW	6 568 902	1.0000	0.8550	0.9554	0.9203
Vic	4 791 268	1.0000	0.8330	0.9487	0.8754
Qld	3 603 043	1.0000	1.0066	1.0020	1.0027
WA	1 893 490	1.0000	1.5632	1.1731	0.9752
SA	1 511 183	1.0000	0.7040	0.9090	1.1794
Tas	472 288	1.0000	2.1721	1.3602	1.5010
NT	198 487	1.0000	2.2846	1.3948	4.0217
ACT	319 303	1.0000	1.9440	1.2901	1.1463
Total	19 357 964				

Sources: Department of Transport and Regional Services and Table 3 in *Federal Financial Relations 2002–03*, Commonwealth Budget Paper No. 3

State to the average per capita grant across all States. Per capita relativities have values around 1.0. If the per capita relativity for a State is less than 1.0, the State receives less than its per capita share of the grants. If the per capita relativity is greater than 1.0, the State receives more than its per capita share.

Table 2.3 shows that New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia receive less than their per capita share for financial assistance grants while the remaining States receive greater than their per capita share. South Australia has the lowest per capita relativity and the Northern Territory the highest for the financial assistance grants.

The GST revenue relativities have a far greater variability than the financial assistance grant relativities. The GST revenue relativities for all States, except Western Australia and South Australia, have the same direction of movement away from 1.0 as the financial assistance grant relativities.

Quantum of financial assistance grants allocations

Table 2.4 shows the level of general purpose grants since the Federal Government began providing general purpose assistance to Local Government in 1974–75, together with untied local roads grants since 1991–92.

Table 2.5 provides the level of general purpose grants, local roads grants and total financial assistance grants for States over the five years from 1998–99 to 2002–03.

Table 2.4: National financial assistance grant allocation, 1974–75 to 2002–03 (\$)

Year	General purpose	Local roads	Total
1974–75	56 345 000	n/a	56 345 000
1975–76	79 978 000	n/a	79 978 000
1976–77	140 070 131	n/a	140 070 131
1977–78	165 327 608	n/a	165 327 608
1978–79	179 426 870	n/a	179 426 870
1979–80 ¹	222 801 191	n/a	222 801 191
1980–81	302 226 347	n/a	302 226 347
1981–82	352 544 573	n/a	352 544 573
1982–83	426 518 330	n/a	426 518 330
1983–84	461 531 180	n/a	461 531 180
1984–85	488 831 365	n/a	488 831 365
1985–86	538 532 042	n/a	538 532 042
1986–87	590 427 808	n/a	590 427 808
1987–88	636 717 377	n/a	636 717 377
1988–89	652 500 000	n/a	652 500 000
1989–90	677 739 860	n/a	677 739 860
1990–91	699 291 988	n/a	699 291 988
1991–92 ²	714 969 488	303 174 734	1 018 144 222
1992–93 ³	730 122 049	318 971 350	1 049 093 399
1993–94	737 203 496	322 065 373	1 059 268 869
1994–95	756 446 019	330 471 283	1 086 917 302
1995–96 ⁴	806 748 051	357 977 851	1 164 725 902
1996–97	833 693 434	369 934 312	1 203 627 746
1997–98	832 859 742	369 564 377	1 202 424 119
1998–99	854 180 951	379 025 226	1 233 206 177
1999–2000	880 575 142	390 737 104	1 271 312 246
2000–01	919 848 793	408 163 979	1 328 012 793
2001–02	965 841 233	428 572 178	1 394 413 411
2002–03 ⁵	1 003 702 209	445 372 208	1 449 074 417

Notes:

- 1 Grants to the Northern Territory under the Act began in 1979–80, the initial allocation being \$1 061 733.
- 2 Before 1991–92 local roads grants were provided as tied grants under a different Act.
- 3 In 1992–93 part of the local roads grant entitlement of the Tasmanian and Northern Territory Governments was reallocated to Local Government in the respective State.
- 4 Grants to the Australian Capital Territory under the Act began in 1995–96, the initial allocation being general purpose (\$13 572 165) and local roads (\$11 478 714).
- 5 For 2002–03 the national grant allocation is the estimated entitlement.

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Table 2.5 Grant entitlements for all States by type of grant, 1998–99 to 2002–03 (\$)

State	Type of grant	1998–99	1999–00	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03
NSW	General purpose	289 122 909	297 893 674	310 670 281	327 747 092	340 161 401
	Local roads	109 967 111	113 365 094	118 421 178	124 342 237	129 216 452
	Total	399 090 020	411 258 768	429 091 459	452 089 328	469 377 853
Vic	General purpose	212 348 975	218 827 409	228 730 976	239 054 282	248 565 220
	Local roads	78 141 293	80 555 859	84 148 650	88 356 082	91 819 641
	Total	290 490 268	299 383 268	312 879 626	327 410 365	340 384 861
Qld	General purpose	157 152 792	162 692 473	170 764 707	179 769 293	187 952 916
	Local roads	71 015 440	73 209 818	76 474 975	80 298 724	83 446 434
	Total	228 168 232	235 902 291	247 239 682	260 068 017	271 399 350
WA	General purpose	83 128 999	86 223 641	90 349 594	94 473 299	98 256 102
	Local roads	57 953 514	59 744 277	62 408 872	65 529 316	68 098 065
	Total	141 082 513	145 967 918	152 758 466	160 002 614	166 354 167
SA	General purpose	68 005 311	69 591 120	72 250 229	75 398 572	77 776 866
	Local roads	20 830 002	21 473 649	22 431 374	23 552 943	24 476 218
	Total	88 835 313	91 064 769	94 681 603	98 951 515	102 253 084
Tas	General purpose	21 683 676	22 002 166	22 731 964	23 564 215	24 233 779
	Local roads	20 085 659	20 706 306	21 629 807	22 711 297	23 601 580
	Total	41 769 335	42 708 472	44 361 771	46 275 512	47 835 359
NT	General purpose	8 636 642	8 938 475	9 382 393	9 903 259	10 234 625
	Local roads	8 878 600	9 152 948	9 561 170	10 039 228	10 432 766
	Total	17 515 242	18 091 423	18 943 563	19 942 487	20 667 391
ACT	General purpose	14 101 647	14 406 184	14 968 649	15 931 221	16 521 300
	Local roads	12 153 607	12 529 153	13 087 954	13 742 351	14 281 052
	Total	26 255 254	26 935 337	28 056 603	29 673 572	30 802 352
National total	General purpose	854 180 951	880 575 142	919 848 793	965 841 233	1 003 702 209
	Local roads	379 025 226	390 737 104	408 163 979	428 572 178	445 372 208
Total		1 233 206 177	1 271 312 246	1 328 012 773	1 394 413 411	1 449 074 417

Notes: All years are actual entitlement except 2002–03, which is an estimated entitlement.
All variations are due to rounding adjustments.

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Principles for determining the distribution of grants within States

The 1995 Act requires national principles to be formulated by the Federal Minister in consultation with State Ministers and a body or bodies representative of Local Government. These national principles provide guidance for allocating the financial assistance grants for a State to councils within the State.

The national principles first came into effect from 1996–97 and apply to both grant components. The national principles applying to the **general purpose component** provide additional criteria to the objectives of full horizontal equalisation and the minimum grant (see box below) which are established in the Act. The national principles are set out in full in Appendix A.

What is the minimum grant?

Section 6(2)(b) of the Act requires the Minister to ensure that:

‘No local governing body in a State will be allocated an amount under section 9 (the general purpose component of the grant) in a year that is less than the amount that would be allocated to the body if 30 per cent of the amount to which the State is entitled under that section in respect of the year were allocated among local governing bodies in the State on a per capita basis.’

What is horizontal equalisation?

Horizontal equalisation would be achieved if every council in a State, by means of reasonable revenue-raising effort, was able to afford to provide a similar range and quality of services. The Federal Government pursues a policy of horizontal equalisation when it distributes general purpose funding for State Governments.

More formally, section 6(3) of the Act defines horizontal equalisation as being an allocation of funds that:

- a) ensures each local governing body in a State is able to function, by reasonable effort, at a standard not lower than the average standard of other local governing bodies in the State
- b) takes account of differences in the expenditure required to be incurred by local governing bodies in the performance of their functions and in their capacity to raise revenue.

Horizontal equalisation distribution of grants is determined by estimating the cost each council would incur in providing a normal range and standard of services, and by also estimating the revenue each council could obtain through the normal range and standard of rates and charges. The grant is then allocated to compensate for these variations in expenditure and revenue and (ideally) bring all councils up to the same level of financial capacity.

This means councils that would incur higher relative costs in providing normal services, for example, in remote areas (where transport costs are higher), or areas with a higher proportion of elderly or pre-school aged people (where there will be more demand for specific services), will receive relatively more grant monies. Similarly, councils with a strong rate base (highly valued residential properties, high proportion of industrial and/or commercial property) will tend to receive relatively less grant monies.

For the general purpose grant, the most important principle is that the grants are distributed so as to contribute to achieving **horizontal equalisation**. Horizontal equalisation is achieved if each council in a State is able to provide the average range, level and quality of services by reasonable effort, taking account of differences in their capacities to raise revenue and in their expenditure needed to provide average services.

The distribution of grants between States on a per capita basis, rather than on a horizontal equalisation basis, evolved as a result of difficulties in determining the latter. In the 1991 CGC report on the per capita relativities for the distribution of general purpose assistance, the Commission did not recommend using the relativities it had calculated. It considered its assessments to be subject to important reservations about the appropriateness of the methods it had used and the quality of available data.²

Horizontal equalisation within States aims to bring all councils in that State up to the same fiscal level. The effect of distributing grants between States on a per capita basis means councils in different States may be brought up to different fiscal levels.

The **Effort Neutrality** principle requires that a council's grant be independent of its policies. This means the grant to a particular council is not influenced by that council's actual rates charged, its actual expenditure on particular functions or the extent of its reserves or debt. This process allows a council to decide its own spending priorities and revenue-raising policies knowing that the decisions it takes will not affect its grant entitlement.

The **Minimum Grant** principle ensures that each council receives at least a minimum level of general purpose assistance as required by the Act.

This minimum is set at 30 per cent of a council's per capita share of general purpose grants.

The **Other Grant Support** principle requires other grants provided to a council by another sphere of Government for the provision of services to be regarded like any other source of revenue and taken into account when assessing the overall financial capacity of each council. In the assessment of each council's financial capacity, local roads grants provided under this Act should be included as well as any other grants that relate to the provision of Local Government services that are within the scope of services covered by the grant allocation process.

The **Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islanders** principle seeks to address the specific needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the provision of council services. The principle requires that the level of grants received by councils should reflect the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population within council boundaries. This means that calculation of the grant for councils should reflect differences in the demand for services by Indigenous people, the cost of providing services to them and the capacity to raise revenue from them.

There is one national principle applying to the **Identified Road Component**. It requires distribution of this component on the basis of road expenditure needs, including consideration of factors such as length, type and use of roads.

Section 26 of the Act allows the Federal Minister to approve transitional modifications of the national principles for individual States for specified years. For 2001–02, transitional arrangements were sought by Queensland and agreed to by the Federal Minister. Queensland has been granted transitional modifications each year since the 1996–97 grant year.

2 Commonwealth Grants Commission 1995, *Equality in Diversity – History of the Commonwealth Grants Commission*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, p. 131.

Determining the distribution of grants within States

Local Government Grants Commissions, established within each State (except the Australian Capital Territory), determine individual council allocations in accordance with the national principles. In the Australian Capital Territory, Local Government is integrated with the Territory government and there is no role for a Commission.

Local Government Grants Commissions are State authorities required by the Federal Government as a condition of the State receiving Local Government financial assistance grants (see box below). The State determines the membership of its Commission and provides the resources for it.

After the Local Government Grants Commission has determined the grant distribution, the State Minister recommends the allocation to the Federal Minister for approval. One of the

conditions for approval is that the Federal Minister is satisfied the State has adopted the recommendations of its Grants Commission.

The Federal Government pays grants to each State government as a tied grant to be passed on to councils in accordance with the approved distribution. Although a tied grant to the States, the grants are untied in the hands of Local Government, to give councils discretion regarding local priorities.

Section 15 of the Act requires, as a condition on the payment to Local Government from the States, that the grants are paid by the State without undue delay and without conditions. Further, each State Treasurer must give the Federal Minister, as soon as practicable after 30 June each year, a statement detailing payments made to councils during the previous financial year as well as the date the payments were made. The State Auditor-General must certify the statement.

Local Government Grants Commissions

Section 6 of the Act specifies the criteria a body must satisfy to be eligible to be recognised as a Local Government Grants Commission for a State. These criteria are:

- the body is established by a law of the State
- the principal function of the body is to make recommendations to the State Government about the provision of financial assistance to local governing bodies in the State
- the Federal Minister is satisfied that the body includes at least two people who are or have been associated with Local Government in the State, whether as members of a local governing body or otherwise.

Sections 11 and 14 of the Act require Local Government Grants Commissions to:

- hold public meetings in connection with the recommendations
- permit local governing bodies to make submissions to the Commission in relation to the recommendations
- make their recommendations in accordance with the national principles and any agreed State-specific principles.

The grants are paid to the States in equal instalments in the middle of each quarter. The first payment for a financial year is paid as soon as statutory conditions are met. One of the requirements of the Act is that the first payment cannot be made before 15 August.

Bodies eligible to receive financial assistance grants

Only local governing bodies are entitled to receive financial assistance grants. All councils constituted under State Local Government Acts are automatically local governing bodies. In addition, Section 4(2) of the Act provides for 'a body declared by the Minister, on the advice of the relevant State Minister, by notice published in the Gazette, to be a local governing body for the purposes of this Act'.

In total, 722 councils received grants in 2001–02. Included in this figure were 38 declared local governing bodies, made eligible under this provision. Table 2.6 shows the distribution of declared bodies by State.

There are two councils in Australia that receive the equivalent of financial assistance grant payments but are not entitled to receive funding under the Act. These are the Cocos Islands and Christmas Island Councils that are part of Australia's Indian Ocean Territories. For an explanation of the arrangements for these councils see the box 'Funding of councils in Australia's Indian Ocean territories' following.

Table 2.6 Distribution of local governing bodies by type by State at June 2002

Type	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT ²	Total
Councils established by legislation ¹	173	78	157	142	68	29	37	684
Declared	2	1	0	0	6	0	29	38
Total	175	79	157	142	74	29	66	722

Notes:

1 These are local governing bodies eligible under section 4(2) of the Act as they are constituted under State Local Government Acts.

2 Includes Northern Territory Road Trust Fund.

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Funding of councils in Australia's Indian Ocean territories

Under an arrangement between the Federal and Western Australian Governments, the Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission provides an annual assessment of the general purpose and local roads grants for the Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands Shire Councils. The Commission determines the grant allocation as if these councils were a council in Western Australia. This is on the basis that funding from the Federal Government for non-self-governing territories should allow them to provide services that align with similar communities on the mainland.

On the basis of these assessments, the Territories Office of the Department of Transport and Regional Services provides Federal funds to these Councils in instalments on 15 August, 15 November, 15 February and 15 May. This funding comes from a separate budget allocation to that provided under the Act.

In 2001–02, Christmas Island had a population of around 2000 people and road length of 132 kms and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands have a population of 650 people and road length of 31 kms. These Territories are around 2500 kms from Perth.

The amounts provided in 2001–02 were:

- Christmas Island Shire Council – \$1 495 868 in general purpose grants and \$167 164 in local roads grants
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands Shire Council – \$1 046 007 in general purpose grants and \$62 187 in local roads grants.

Local Government Grants Commissions methods

Local Government Grants Commissions are required to determine the distribution of 2001–02 grants of councils in each State in accordance with the national principles and to take into account local circumstances.

To determine the allocation of general purpose grants within a State, the respective Grants Commission assesses the amount each council would need to be able to provide a standard range and quality of services, while raising revenue from a standard range of rates and other income sources. The Commission then develops recommendations for grant distribution by allocating the available grant to councils taking account of their assessed grant need, and the minimum grant requirement. Distribution of the local roads component is determined based on assessments of councils' road expenditure need.

These are difficult tasks, requiring considerable experience and judgement. Grants Commissions need to accurately and quantitatively assess the unique circumstances of a large number of councils in their jurisdictions in terms of providing a variety of services and raising a number of revenues.

Local Government Grants Commissions meet annually at a national conference to share insights and discuss common issues. The 2001 conference was held at Caloundra in Queensland in October. The conference included a presentation by the CGC on issues arising from its review of the operation of the Federal Act. Local Government Grants Commissions examined the implications of particular findings of the review for their allocation methods. The Victoria Grants Commission explained its new methodology for allocating local roads grants that was introduced in 2001–02. The South Australian Local Government Grants Commissions gave an account of its progress in mapping all local roads

in South Australia using a GIS system. This development by the South Australian Commission arose out of its local roads audit programme. The Australian Bureau of Statistics reported on the implications for Grants Commissions of its review of Local Government statistics.

Below is a brief description of the Local Government Grants Commissions methods used in 2001–02 comparing their approach to road grants, the assessments of revenue and expenditure and the treatment of Indigenous communities. The description of methods below should not necessarily imply that the Federal Government agrees with the approach taken by the Grants Commissions.

A detailed description of the methods used by each Grants Commission is contained in Appendix B. In addition to the summaries in the appendix, the Grants Commissions publish information about their methods in annual reports and occasional publications. Copies of these are usually available on the Internet (see box 'Internet addresses for Local Government Grants Commissions' below).

Local roads needs assessments

Grants Commissions assess each council's local roads needs when they determine grant allocations for the local roads grants. However, as part of the expenditure needs assessment for determining general purpose grants, they also assess the expenditure needs of councils for local roads. Some Grants Commissions use the same method for the two assessments while others use different methods.

New South Wales distributes a little more than one-quarter of the local roads component to councils in Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong, and a little less than three-quarters to other councils. Of the former, 57 per cent is distributed in proportion to road length, 38 per cent to population and 5 per cent to bridge length. Of the latter, about 74 per cent is distributed in proportion to road length, 19 per cent to population and 7 per cent to bridge length.

New South Wales uses a different model for assessing roads needs in the general purpose component of the model. New South Wales uses the following categories of local roads: urban local

Internet addresses for Local Government Grants Commissions

Local Government Grants Commission	Internet address
New South Wales	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/grants.htm
Victoria	www.doi.vic.gov.au/doi/internet/localgov.nsf
Queensland	www.dlgp.qld.gov.au/local_govt/grants_subsidies/commission
Western Australia	www.dlgrd.wa.gov.au/lggc
South Australia	www.sacentral.sa.gov.au/agencies/olg/olggrants.htm
Tasmania	www.treasury.tas.gov.au/sgc
Northern Territory	www.dcdsca.nt.gov.au

roads, sealed rural local roads, and unsealed rural local roads. Disability factors for topography, climate, soils, materials, drainage, heavy traffic, travel, and development increase expenditure allowances for each council. It also assesses needs with reference to the length of each type of road per urban or rural property, as applicable, and with provision for bridge and culvert needs per kilometre of roads. The average spending on maintaining urban roads per kilometre is more than double rural sealed roads which, in turn, is more than double the average spending on rural unsealed roads.

Victoria implemented a new method for allocating the local roads grant in 2001–02 based on road lengths and traffic volumes. It uses annual average preservation costs for given traffic volumes with the costs subject to a number of modifiers such as freight loading, climate, sub-grade material and strategic routes.

A different method is used for the expenditure assessment for local roads for the general purpose component. Under this method, standard costs are derived for each of three expenditure categories: sealed roads, formed and surfaced roads, and natural surfaced roads. These standard costs are applied to the length of local roads in each municipality and then multiplied by a series of disability factors to reflect location (metropolitan, regional centres, rural agricultural, etc), soil, traffic loading, climate, drainage, materials, terrain and wet days. The data for all factors (apart from location) were based on councils' own estimates.

Queensland distributes about 63 per cent of its local roads component in proportion to the length of local roads and 37 per cent in proportion to population.

For the general purpose component, Queensland distinguishes urban and rural local roads by surface type (sealed, gravelled, formed, unformed) and width. It assesses a road disability factor with

reference to traffic volumes, road type and topography. The assessments result in disability factors reflecting different road needs applied to a standard expenditure of about \$3,166 per kilometre of road. In allocating the general purpose component, not all the local roads component provided to councils is taken into account in determining councils' net cost of road maintenance and construction. The local road component is discounted to 70 per cent. The Queensland Grants Commission does this, since, on average, about 30 per cent of council revenue is used on water and sewerage functions, which are not assessed in the methodology.

Western Australia distributes 93 per cent of its local roads component according to its (road) asset preservation model, described below. It distributes about 5 per cent for major bridge works following the advice of Main Roads Western Australia. Following advice from the Aboriginal Roads Committee and in consultation with communities it distributes about 2 per cent for access roads serving remote Aboriginal communities.

The asset preservation model takes into account annual and recurrent maintenance costs and the costs of reconstruction at the end of the road's useful life. Roads are divided into two categories, urban and rural, because the former requires greater spending due to more traffic, more intersections and more kerbing and longitudinal drainage. The model takes the road surface into account (sealed, gravel, formed and unformed) and the contribution that bridges make to the cost of local roads.

Western Australia uses the same asset preservation model for roads in distributing the general purpose component. However, other expenditure needs that are transport-related, such as street lighting and aerodromes, are also taken into account. Western Australia is phasing in application of the model in the general purpose component to moderate the impact on grants

received by councils. This year, 80 per cent of the standard is due to the model and 20 per cent to the standards applying in 1995–96.

South Australia divides the local roads component into formula grants (85 per cent) and special local road needs (15 per cent). Formula grants are divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan councils in proportion to road length and population, equally weighted. For metropolitan councils, the same formula divides grants. For non-metropolitan councils, shares are estimated with reference to equally weighted road length, population, area and road needs. Special local road needs are distributed among a minority of councils on recommendations of a Local Roads Advisory Committee, which assesses submissions from regional associations about roads of regional significance.

For the general purpose component, South Australia divides roads into five categories:

- sealed roads – built-up
- sealed roads – non built-up
- unsealed roads – built-up
- unsealed roads – non built-up
- unformed roads.

Road lengths are the units of measure. Cost relativity indices have been developed for each road category to determine why it costs one council more than another to reconstruct or maintain a kilometre of road. Factors such as soil, terrain, drainage and materials haulage are components of the index. Further work is to be undertaken on the cost relativity indices to reflect traffic volumes.

Tasmania distributes the local roads component so that:

- 66.5 per cent is distributed according to relative road expenditure needs estimated by a Mulholland asset preservation model

- 28.5 per cent is distributed in proportion to bridge deck areas (including concrete and wooden bridges, but excluding culverts)
- 5 per cent is distributed among councils with above average unsealed roads in proportion to relative unsealed road length.

Tasmania distributes the general purpose component according to the same Mulholland asset preservation model used to allocate part of the local roads components. Performance standards define for each type of road the annual length needing reconstruction, rehabilitation or maintenance. Average costs per kilometre derived from cost data supplied by city and rural councils are used to introduce values into the estimates. Disability factors such as climate, drainage, materials, soil, terrain and traffic may increase or decrease the average costs for each council. Roads expenditure assesses urban sealed, urban unsealed, rural sealed and rural unsealed roads as separate expenditure categories. In effect, the local roads component received is netted from road needs for the general purpose component.

In the **Northern Territory**, Local Government boundaries are not contiguous. Roads not allocated to a Local Government are maintained through a roads trust. Funds are allocated to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory which, in consultation with the communities, manages the roads. The local roads component is distributed in accordance with weighted road lengths:

• sealed, kerbed and guttered	10.0
• sealed	8.0
• gravel	4.0
• cycle path	2.0
• formed	1.0
• flat bladed track	0.4

For the general purpose component, the Northern Territory assesses road needs by weighted road lengths by surface type using the same weights as for the local roads component.

Revenue assessments

Sources of revenue for Local Government are rates, user charges as well as grants received from the Federal or State governments. The Other Grants Support national principle should guide Grants Commissions on the treatment in the equalisation process of grants that councils receive from the other spheres of government.

In the revenue assessment, **New South Wales** distinguishes urban and rural land and applies State-wide average rates in the dollar to unimproved capital values, averaged over three years, to estimate the relative revenue raising capacity of each council. It then discounts the differences by about 64 per cent in recognition of the impact of the Sydney property values and to achieve some parity with expenditure assessments.

The only grants treated by inclusion in the model are the library and local roads component of financial assistance grants. Other revenue sources such as user charges and Federal and State grants are assessed by exclusion by New South Wales.

For the assessment of rates revenue, **Victoria** applies a State-wide average rate in the dollar to the net annual values, generally averaged over three years.

Own-sources revenue for Family Services, Heritage, Culture and Recreation, and Traffic Management is taken into account indirectly in the assessment. These are included on the expenditure side of the method and treated as negative expenditure functions.

Grants received by councils from State and Federal Governments (including the local roads grant) are treated by excluding both the grant as a source of revenue and the expenditure it funded.

Queensland uses a combination of indicators of rating capacity. These are derived by statistical estimation as accounting for most of the variation observed in actual rates collected. The method

estimates revenue-raising capacity as the sum of a number of proportional components for each council (the figures shown are approximate):

- \$25.76 per rateable property; plus
- \$0.013 per dollar of gross value of rural production; plus
- \$0.015 per dollar of personal income; plus
- \$0.005 per dollar of an indicator of retail sales; plus
- \$0.002 per dollar of unimproved capital value.

Rates assessment for Indigenous councils is set to zero.

For the assessment of rate revenue, **Western Australia** distinguishes urban properties, agricultural properties, pastoral properties and mining property and assesses capacity by different methods for each.

The capacity of urban properties is estimated as the sum of two components: the first is the product of gross rental values, averaged over three years, and a constant more or less like an average rate in the dollar; the second is the number of rateable assessments and a corresponding constant value per assessment.

Agricultural rate capacity is based on improved capital values averaged over three years, a per assessment component and one for agricultural area in hectares. Pastoral rate capacity is based on unimproved capital values averaged over three years. Mining rate capacity is estimated for three different categories of council with reference to mining unimproved capital value and a per assessment component.

Western Australia makes an assessment of revenue capacity for recreation and culture, and building control fees and charges. For revenues in other categories, revenues are netted out from expenditure.

Where revenue is received in the form of grants from State and Federal governments, there are

two different approaches. In the case of the local roads component, the roads expenditure assessment is reduced by the size of the grant. In three expenditure categories (Education Health and Welfare; Community Amenities; Recreation and Culture), a state average discount factor is applied to the assessed expenditure requirement for all councils, regardless of the grant individual councils received.

South Australia estimates a State-wide average rate in the dollar per property and applies it to the difference between each council's improved capital values per capita and the State's improved capital value per capita for five land use categories: residential, commercial, industrial, rural and other.

All data are averaged over three years to reduce fluctuation.

Tasmania applies a State-wide average rate in the dollar to rateable assessed annual valuations averaged over three years. Its rate includes provision for water and sewerage. It makes a corresponding assessment of gross expenditure on water and sewerage.

Much of the **Northern Territory** is unincorporated, with Local Government largely confined to the areas settled by Aboriginal communities, or a relatively few more densely settled municipalities. Land trusts own the land in the majority of Aboriginal communities and no possibility exists of determining distinct properties and values for the assessment of revenue-raising capacity. For this reason, statistics of personal income are used to estimate the revenue-raising capacity of all councils. In addition, councils that receive an 'operational subsidy' from the Territory Government have half of this taken into account.

Expenditure assessments

In addition to expenditure on roads, already outlined, Local Governments' main expenditures are on general public services, which includes the organisation and general and financial administration of councils, recreation facilities, and sanitation and protection of the environment, which includes disposal of sewage, stormwater drainage and garbage.

New South Wales assesses 21 categories of expenditure including three classes of road maintenance. It assesses more than 40 distinct disabilities among the categories. It defines a standard expenditure based on average expenditures, excluding extreme values. Differential expenditure needs are equal to the standard per service unit (mostly population) multiplied by the average number of service units and the overall disability for the category. The disability estimates the extent to which the unavoidable cost per unit exceeds the State average (positive disabilities) or falls short of it (negative disabilities). In most cases, if the cost per unit is assessed to be negative, zero is substituted, so generally no negative assessments are made.

Victoria assesses 20 categories of expenditure including three for roads and three revenue assessments (see p.27). It defines a standard expenditure based on average, modal expenditures per service unit (mostly population). Expenditure needs are equal to the standard per service unit multiplied by the number of service units, the overall disability for the category and a discount factor to take account of the expenditure needs met by specific purpose grants. The disability is an estimate of the unavoidable cost per unit of the council, relative to those of other councils.

Queensland assesses relatively few expenditure categories. For the bulk of expenditure it assesses current and capital needs as equal to a minimum of about \$983 000 – a fixed cost or flagfall

amount that is included irrespective of the number of people serviced by the council – and additional per-person needs of about \$348 per person. The amounts so assessed are increased or decreased by a disability factor. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils, it assesses no minimum but allows needs of \$918 per person and provision for a disability factor as for other councils. For categories representing a small proportion of expenditure, known as 'effort positive', it assesses current and capital needs equal to actual expenditure.

Western Australia assesses eight expenditure categories and 18 disabilities. It defines standard expenditure as a minimum amount specific to each category, and sometimes to a class within each category, and amounts per unit of service (usually population). Needs are defined as the product of the standard, the units of service, disabilities and discounts for needs met by special purpose grants.

South Australia assesses 13 expenditure categories apart from those assessing road needs. It estimates component expenditure grants as positive or negative contributions to the overall grant according to whether the costs of providing each service can be expected to be greater than or less than the average cost for the State as a whole due to factors outside the control of councils. For each service, the total State expenditure is divided by a unit of measure to calculate the standard cost. For example, for garbage the unit of measure is the number of residential properties. The value of units for each council per capita is compared with the standard and the difference – whether positive, negative or zero – is multiplied by the average cost per unit and rescaled by population. This gives the component expenditure grant. For some services a further cost relativity index, defined with reference to a State average of one, is used to inflate or deflate the unit of measure per capita, to take account of other influences on expenditure beyond the control of councils.

Tasmania assesses nine expenditure categories, including one for roads (made up of four classes). It assesses 14 disabilities. It defines standard expenditure as the State average. Needs are defined as the product of the standard, the population and the cumulative disability allowance (one plus the sum of the amount by which each disability exceeds one).

The **Northern Territory** assesses six categories, including one for roads. It assesses five disabilities. Needs are defined as the product of the population, average expenditure per person, and the compounded disabilities, minus grants received. A flagfall of about \$70 000 is allowed for general administration.

Needs of Indigenous communities

The fifth national principle for distribution of general purpose grants requires Grants Commissions to allocate assistance to councils in a way that recognises the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within their boundaries.

All Grants Commissions allocate funding to councils taking into account the population of the council. Therefore, councils that have Indigenous people as part of their community will receive financial assistance funding in respect of them. However, this national principle goes further than this and requires Grants Commissions to allocate grants in a way that recognises the additional costs of providing services to Indigenous people.

Councils in **New South Wales** with above the State average proportion of Indigenous people receive recognition for the additional costs of providing services to Indigenous people in the expenditure assessments for General Administration and General Community Services.

Victoria incorporates the proportion of each council's population that is Indigenous as a cost driver in its Health and Welfare expenditure assessment.

In **Queensland**, most of the larger geographically discrete Indigenous communities are located within the 32 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils or the Shires of Aurukun and Mornington. The assessment of non-road expenditure for the Indigenous councils is different to that for mainstream councils.

For mainstream councils, it is calculated as:

Assessed non-road expenditure =
 $\$983\,804 + (\$348.31 \times \text{population}) \times \text{disability factor (Local Government)}$

Whereas for Indigenous councils, it is calculated as:

Assessed non-road expenditure =
 $\$918.06 \times \text{population} \times \text{disability factor (Indigenous councils)}$

Western Australia includes two disability factors – socioeconomic disadvantage and population dispersion – in their expenditure assessments. In addition, 16 councils receive an allowance that recognises the additional costs of providing environmental health services (that is, the inspection of food premises, water supply, waste disposal and dog control) to remote Indigenous communities.

Western Australia also sets aside 2.3 per cent of the local road component as special project funds for improvements to access roads to remote Indigenous communities.

In **South Australia**, the needs of Indigenous communities within mainstream councils are recognised through the proportion of Indigenous people in the council area. The Commission allocates a dollar amount per capita. In addition, the Commission gives special consideration to councils that have a high non-residential use of their facilities.

Five Indigenous communities receive financial assistance grant funding. Due to the unavailability of data, grants for these communities cannot be calculated in the same manner as grants to other councils so the Commission allocates funding on a per capita basis. These per capita amounts were established after comparisons were made with communities in other States. For example, in 2001–02 the allocation to Anangu Pitjantjatjara was \$310 per capita.

Tasmania makes no special allowance for Indigenous people as there are very few separately identifiable Indigenous communities in that State and there are no targeted services provided by councils for these communities that are not also provided to other residents.

Aboriginal councils make up 85 per cent of the local governing bodies in the **Northern Territory**. The additional cost of providing services to Aboriginal people is incorporated through the inclusion of the proportion of the population that is Aboriginal for each council in the expenditure assessments.

Allocation of grants to councils in 2001–02

Payment to councils of financial assistance grants for 2001–02 were made in accordance with the recommendations made by State Ministers and approved by the Federal Minister. Appendix D contains the final grant entitlements for all councils in 2001–02. The estimated entitlement for 2002–03 are also provided.

Table 2.7 sets out the average general purpose grant per capita to councils by State and the Australian Classification of Local Government (ACLG – a description of the ACLG is in Appendix F); and Table 2.8 provides the average local roads grant per kilometre. The ACLG has been developed to aid comparison of councils with like councils, and is used here to indicate trends and allow comparison of grants to individual councils with the average for their category.

The results in Tables 2.7 and 2.8 suggest there are some major differences in outcomes between States. Notwithstanding the capacity of the ACLG system to group like councils, it should

be noted that there remains considerable scope for divergence within these categories, and for this reason the figures should only be taken as a starting point for inquiring into grant outcomes. This divergence can occur because of factors including isolation, population distribution, local economic performance, daily or seasonal population changes, age of population and geographic differences. Divergence can also occur because of variations between States of the relative ranking within the State on the basis of need of the different ACLG categories.

From the allocations of the general purpose grants and local roads grants to councils within a State, the implicit ranking of councils by the Local Government Grants Commission – from those assessed as requiring the most assistance to those least as requiring the least assistance – can be obtained. For the general purpose grants, these are obtained by ranking councils on their general purpose grant per capita while for local roads grants, these are on the basis of local roads grant per kilometre. Appendix E provides these ranking of councils by State for 2001–02.

Table 2.7 Average general purpose grant per capita to councils by State and ACLG category, 2001–02 (\$)

Classification	State										Average
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT ¹	Average			
Urban Capital City (UCC)	\$15.21	\$15.06	\$15.13	\$15.04	\$23.76	\$15.03	\$18.97	\$15.49			
Urban Development Small (UDS)	\$15.21	\$15.13	n/a	\$15.42	\$15.10	n/a	n/a	\$15.35			
Urban Development Medium (UDM)	\$17.94	\$30.65	\$15.13	\$15.04	\$15.72	n/a	n/a	\$18.38			
Urban Development Large (UDL)	\$21.58	\$29.02	n/a	\$15.04	\$30.84	n/a	n/a	\$26.21			
Urban Development Very Large (UDV)	\$25.27	\$30.45	\$15.13	\$15.04	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$26.51			
Urban Regional Small (URS)	\$79.34	\$102.13	\$108.88	\$77.62	\$76.36	\$44.91	\$44.81	\$83.56			
Urban Regional Medium (URM)	\$62.52	\$91.71	\$33.03	\$26.42	n/a	\$22.96	n/a	\$59.40			
Urban Regional Large (URL)	\$68.82	\$80.45	\$20.84	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$50.93			
Urban Regional Very Large (URV)	\$53.56	\$56.95	\$15.55	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$37.82			
Urban Fringe Small (UFS)	n/a	\$95.09	\$48.22	\$15.11	\$33.57	\$54.49	\$38.44	\$48.37			
Urban Fringe Medium (UFM)	\$40.42	\$52.85	\$18.08	\$26.34	\$62.38	n/a	n/a	\$36.89			
Urban Fringe Large (UFL)	\$65.53	\$43.06	\$15.13	\$15.42	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$28.33			
Urban Fringe Very Large (UFV)	\$33.93	\$45.42	\$20.74	\$15.04	\$40.07	n/a	n/a	\$33.85			
Rural Significant Growth (RSG)	n/a	\$51.35	\$37.15	\$51.39	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$47.29			
Rural Agricultural Small (RAS)	\$363.64	n/a	\$1 344.15	\$328.52	\$310.19	\$291.99	n/a	\$424.78			
Rural Agricultural Medium (RAM)	\$248.88	n/a	\$401.62	\$126.33	\$179.39	\$144.42	n/a	\$253.88			
Rural Agricultural Large (RAL)	\$179.41	\$188.69	\$172.11	\$195.87	\$125.19	\$99.72	n/a	\$161.55			
Rural Agricultural Very Large (RAV)	\$125.22	\$112.93	\$73.75	\$114.20	\$77.60	\$74.65	\$49.62	\$97.65			
Rural Remote Extra Small (RTX)	\$328.37	n/a	\$4 302.76	\$2 178.05	\$276.42	n/a	\$186.95	\$903.06			
Rural Remote Small (RTS)	n/a	n/a	\$1 953.76	\$715.62	n/a	n/a	\$107.17	\$593.11			
Rural Remote Medium (RTM)	\$707.27	n/a	\$818.43	\$430.91	\$315.33	n/a	\$103.91	\$459.26			
Rural Remote Large (RTL)	\$320.76	n/a	\$351.64	\$287.04	\$159.43	n/a	n/a	\$295.09			
Average	\$50.71	\$50.16	\$50.72	\$50.15	\$50.35	\$50.10	\$49.99	\$50.47			

Note: 1 excludes Northern Territory Trust Fund

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Table 2.8 Average local roads grant per kilometre to councils by State and ACLG category, 2001–02 (\$)

Classification	State										Average
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA ¹	SA ¹	Tas	NT	Average			
Urban Capital City (UCC)	\$2 226.98	\$1 583.89	\$1 743.90	\$3 557.01	\$1 255.94	\$3 427.32	\$2 937.86	\$1 922.31			
Urban Development Small (UDS)	\$1 771.40	\$1 582.75	n/a	\$1 581.33	\$1 401.91	n/a	n/a	\$1 593.98			
Urban Development Medium (UDM)	\$1 861.48	\$1 389.53	\$1 834.00	\$1 521.03	\$1 278.44	n/a	n/a	\$1 580.54			
Urban Development Large (UDL)	\$1 802.71	\$1 272.72	n/a	\$1 442.37	\$1 228.29	n/a	n/a	\$1 381.26			
Urban Development Very Large (UDV)	\$1 802.31	\$1 277.33	\$1 758.95	\$1 484.30	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$1 522.98			
Urban Regional Small (URS)	\$1 039.38	\$616.12	\$530.11	\$850.79	\$609.59	\$1 829.78	\$3 073.01	\$767.36			
Urban Regional Medium (URM)	\$1 169.96	\$678.74	\$858.94	\$812.16	n/a	\$2 245.72	n/a	\$912.29			
Urban Regional Large (URL)	\$1 307.72	\$1 026.21	\$1 034.04	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$1 086.77			
Urban Regional Very Large (URV)	\$1 464.52	\$1 366.36	\$1 493.09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$1 455.38			
Urban Fringe Small (UFS)	n/a	\$843.03	\$523.48	\$1 205.38	\$963.48	\$1 364.00	\$2 756.46	\$768.07			
Urban Fringe Medium (UFM)	\$1 222.69	\$1 067.37	\$786.38	\$1 126.14	\$617.12	n/a	n/a	\$972.85			
Urban Fringe Large (UFL)	\$1 213.93	\$1 433.79	\$1 181.65	\$1 194.36	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$1 263.62			
Urban Fringe Very Large (UFV)	\$1 466.36	\$1 234.13	\$1 140.07	\$1 366.57	\$949.88	n/a	n/a	\$1 288.29			
Rural Significant Growth (RSG)	n/a	\$866.42	\$513.54	\$706.56	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$670.51			
Rural Agricultural Small (RAS)	\$602.62	n/a	\$355.59	\$377.84	\$140.61	\$1 014.01	n/a	\$351.27			
Rural Agricultural Medium (RAM)	\$633.80	n/a	\$373.58	\$450.03	\$145.30	\$1 200.56	n/a	\$456.59			
Rural Agricultural Large (RAL)	\$657.56	\$328.57	\$403.33	\$526.80	\$151.04	\$1 546.41	n/a	\$473.86			
Rural Agricultural Very Large (RAV)	\$717.80	\$575.61	\$435.75	\$453.57	\$187.86	\$1 496.56	\$2 151.41	\$553.00			
Rural Remote Extra Small (RTX)	n/a	n/a	\$349.62	\$280.52	\$362.83	n/a	\$405.85	\$322.89			
Rural Remote Small (RTS)	n/a	n/a	\$350.64	\$408.89	n/a	n/a	\$548.48	\$398.80			
Rural Remote Medium (RTM)	\$574.50	n/a	\$354.67	\$287.81	\$110.93	n/a	\$508.59	\$354.73			
Rural Remote Large (RTL) ¹	\$591.26	n/a	\$362.48	\$378.42	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$389.22			
Northern Territory Trust fund	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$315.47	\$315.47			
Average	\$870.80	\$693.92	\$551.60	\$500.78	\$267.19	\$1 617.27	\$770.39	\$635.93			

Note: ¹ Averages for all classifications in these States include special roads grants received by councils.

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Councils on the minimum grant

Councils receiving the minimum grant entitlement generally fall within the classification of Capital City, Urban Metropolitan Developed or Urban Fringe as described in the ACLG. Councils on the minimum grant are identified with a hash (#) in Appendix D. The per capita grant of these councils is about \$15 but differs slightly between States. This difference arises from slight variations in data sources for population used by the Federal Government to calculate the State share of general purpose grants and those used by the Local Government Grants Commissions for the allocations for individual councils.

Table 2.9 provides the number of councils on minimum grant, by State from 1996–97 to 2002–03 and shows an upward trend nationally in the number of minimum grant councils and the proportion of the population covered by minimum grant councils.

Table 2.9 also shows a wide variation between States for the proportion of the population covered by councils receiving the minimum grant. In 2001–02, the proportion ranges from zero per cent in the Northern Territory to 59 per cent for Queensland. This variation can arise because of differences in circumstances in each State. For instance, the whole of Brisbane City Council with a population of over 880,000 is a minimum

Table 2.9 Numbers of councils on minimum grant and proportion of State population covered by minimum grant councils, by State, 1996–97 to 2002–03

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
1996–97								
no. of councils	21	5	0	14	4	1	0	45
% of population	22%	10%	0%	43%	10%	10%	0%	15%
1997–98								
no. of councils	22	7	2	17	4	1	0	53
% of population	22%	18%	10%	52%	10%	10%	0%	19%
1998–99								
no. of councils	22	6	4	22	4	2	0	60
% of population	24%	13%	19%	57%	10%	19%	0%	22%
1999–2000								
no. of councils	22	7	7	24	5	2	0	67
% of population	24%	15%	52%	61%	10%	19%	0%	30%
2000–01								
no. of councils	22	9	9	24	5	2	0	71
% of population	24%	17%	57%	61%	10%	19%	0%	31%
2001–02								
no. of councils	21	9	10	23	9	2	0	74
% of population	24%	18%	59%	57%	16%	19%	0%	31%
2002–03								
no. of councils	21	7	11	26	14	2	0	81
% of population	24%	12%	61%	67%	43%	19%	0%	34%

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

grant council whereas a number of metropolitan councils in Sydney or Melbourne would have to be combined to cover a population of 880 000. However, in Sydney or Melbourne not all these metropolitan councils would be on the minimum grant.

The variation can also arise because of differences in the methodology used by Local Government Grants Commissions. However, if Grants Commissions were achieving similar outcomes, such a wide variation would not be expected.

In 2001–02, the proportion of general purpose grant that went to councils on the minimum grant was just over 9 per cent nationally. The proportion varied from zero per cent in the Northern Territory to almost 18 per cent in Queensland.

Some councils appear concerned if they receive the minimum grant. However, according to the Grants Commission methods, councils on the minimum grant are able to afford above average standards of service and/or below standard revenue-raising efforts. It simply demonstrates that they are **relatively** affluent compared to the other councils in the State that are not on the minimum grant.

Table 2.10 The status of major method reviews undertaken since July 1995, by State, as at 30 June 2002

State	General purpose grants	Local roads grants
NSW	None planned	None planned
Vic	Completed in May 2001 and to be implemented from 2002–03	Completed in July 1999 and implemented from 2001–02
Qld	To be completed in 2002–03 and implemented from 2003–04	To be completed in 2002–03 and implemented from 2003–04
WA	Planned for 2002–03	None planned
SA	Completed in 1997–98, and implemented in 1998–99	None planned
Tas	Commenced in 2001–02 and expected to be completed in 2002–03	Completed in 1999–2000, implemented from 2000–01
NT	Planned for 2002–03	None planned

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

Reviews of Grants Commission methods

Local Government Grants Commissions have programmes for monitoring grant outcomes and refining aspects of their allocation methods. However, from time to time, it is appropriate for Grants Commissions to undertake a thorough review of their allocation methods. Consistent with the Act, such reviews should always be undertaken in consultation with local governing bodies.

Since the introduction of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* in July 1995, most Grants Commissions have undertaken major reviews of their methods, are in the process of undertaking such examinations or have such activities planned.

This need for method reviews was also reinforced by the CGC review of the operations of the 1995 Act. For instance, in its report, the CGC says:

Changes in LGGCs' assessment methods are required to achieve consistency with the Relative Need, Other Grant Support and Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander principles.³

3 Commonwealth Grants Commission 2001, Review of the Operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, p. xii.

At the same time as the release of the CGC's report from the review, the CGC released working papers prepared by the Secretariat of the Commission.⁴ These working papers were intended to assist Grants Commissions in understanding the CGC's findings in relation to their methods.

The status of reviews of methods by the Local Government Grants Commissions as at 30 June 2002 is given in Table 2.10.

The impact of Grants Commission 'capping' policies

Year-to-year variations in the data Grants Commissions use to calculate the grants to councils are capable of leading to big changes in grants. Sometimes changes to Grants Commission methods, to improve their assessments of the grants most likely to achieve horizontal equalisation, also lead to changes. Unexpected changes in grants would impede efficient planning by councils so Grants Commissions have adopted policies to ensure changes are not unacceptably large.

Many Commissions average the data of several years to reduce fluctuations. Nevertheless, they have found that policies to limit changes, by capping the maximum increase and decrease possible, are needed to limit year-to-year variation. For example, capping may constrain the maximum year-to-year increase in grants to 15 per cent and the maximum decrease to 6 per cent. Under this regime, a council that for example would otherwise have received an unconstrained grant 7.5 per cent lower than in the previous year would have its reduction limited to 6 per cent.

No council receives less than the minimum grant, so councils on the minimum grant are exempt from capping. In some circumstances, a Grants Commission may decide a council's grant should

not be capped. Usually, this is to allow a larger grant increase than otherwise.

Commissions estimate the unconstrained grants in conformity with the national principles for allocating grants. For this reason, capping changes the allocation from those consistent with the national principles, although usually the extent of the divergence is relatively small.

However, to monitor the influence of capping, information was sought from each State. Table 2.11 summarises this information by showing the number and percentage of councils in receipt of grants above or below those grant outcomes provided by the methodology and the extent of the differences.

The Federal Government has accepted the use of phase-in arrangements like capping to ensure reasonable stability of funding to councils as having a useful role to play in allocating grants. However, capping should allow the phase-in of even large changes to grants within a reasonably short period of time. Unless the new level of grants is achieved within three to five years, maximum, capping could be seen as impeding achievement of the objectives set out in the national principles.

Table 2.11 shows that in two States a large proportion of councils receive grants more than 10 per cent different from what would be received under a strict interpretation of the national principles. South Australia introduced considerable changes to its methods in 1998–99 so as to better conform to the requirements of the national principles. As a result of this comprehensive review, it chose to phase in the changes in general purpose grants to councils over five years. The percentage of South Australian councils that were within the plus 10 to minus 10 per cent range has increased from 13 per cent in 1998–99 to 53 per cent in 2001–02. South Australia advises that its capping arrangements for

4 Commonwealth Grants Commission 2001, Working Papers for Review of the Operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

Table 2.11 The influence of capping on grant distribution, by State, 2001–02 (general purpose grants)

		Unconstrained grant minus capped grant					Total councils
		Less than –10%	Between –10% and –0.5%	Between –0.5% and +0.5%	Between +0.5% and +10%	More than +10%	
NSW	No.	5	75	36	59	0	175
	%	3%	43%	21%	34%	0%	100%
Vic	No.	3	10	9	56 ¹	1	79
	%	4%	13%	11%	71%	1%	100%
Qld	No.	39	23	10	26	59	157
	%	25%	15%	6%	17%	38%	100%
WA	No.	2	7	114	19 ²	0	142
	%	1%	5%	80%	13%	0%	100%
SA ³	No.	12	19	11	6	20	68
	%	18%	28%	16%	9%	29%	100%
Tas	No.	0	0	29	0	0	29
	%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
NT ⁴	No.	0	0	49	6	11	66
	%	0%	0%	74%	9%	17%	100%

Notes:

- 1 Includes 55 councils around 0.7 per cent
- 2 All 19 councils are at 0.6 per cent
- 3 Excludes Aboriginal communities
- 4 Excludes Northern Territory Road Trust Fund

Source: Information supplied by State Grants Commissions

the phase-in of its new methods will need to extend beyond the intended five years because of the impact that recent changes in valuation data are having on grant outcomes.

In Queensland, methods have changed little in the past six years, but the grants have been subject to ‘phase-in arrangements’ over the past five years (see Appendix B). The Queensland Minister has asked the Commonwealth Minister to agree to this arrangement by signing a section 26 determination, which allows Queensland to not have to comply with the national principles for a specified grant year. As a result, the grants for many Queensland councils differ considerably from those consistent with the national

principles. The differences vary from, at one extreme, around \$492 000 more for a council than an allocation consistent with the national principles, to, at the other extreme, around \$1.3 million less. The impediment in grants moving to an allocation consistent with the national principles has been a requirement that total grants cannot fall below a floor of 85 per cent of the grants received in 1994–95 and a limit of 5 per cent on total grants reductions in any year. In 2001–02, a ‘no fall floor’ and a 7 per cent maximum rise were also applied to the general purpose component. Queensland is reviewing its methods in 2002–03.

Increasing accountability and transparency of Grants Commission processes

One of the goals of the 1995 Act is to increase the transparency and accountability of the States in respect of the allocation of financial assistance grants to councils. The requirement in the Act for Local Government Grants Commissions to hold public hearings and to accept submissions from councils supports this goal, as does the tabling in the Federal Parliament of the National Report on the operation of the Act. In addition to this, Local Government Grants Commissions:

- meet with councils on a regular basis to explain their methods
- issue discussion papers and hold meetings with councils when reviewing their methods
- distribute information papers on the grants.

However, in its report for the 2001 review of financial assistance grants arrangements (CGC 2001), the CGC identified transparency and accountability of Local Government Grants Commissions as requiring improvement. The Commission defined transparency as being about local governing bodies being able to

understand how their grant has been calculated and accountability is about Local Government Grants Commissions providing information to further assist that understanding.

The Commission indicated that a council should be able to:

- verify its grant allocation
- understand why its allocation has changed from its previous level
- understand why it differs from the grant allocation of a neighbouring or similar council
- understand the key drivers of its grant allocation.

In relation to their annual reports, the CGC said that, as a minimum, the Local Government Grants Commissions should provide information on:

- the grant outcomes of all local governing bodies in the State
- the expenditure and revenue assessments of all local governing bodies in the State
- the key drivers of Local Government Grants Commission's expenditure and revenue assessments.

Table 2.12 Information on 2001–02 grants provided by Grants Commissions in annual reports and/or on the Internet

State	Sufficient information for councils to verify allocation	Expenditure and revenue assessments for all councils	Grant outcomes available for all councils	Key drivers of revenue and expenditure assessments
NSW	no	no	yes	no
Vic	yes	no	yes	no
Qld	no	no	yes	no
WA	yes	yes	yes	no
SA	no	no	yes	no
Tas	yes	yes	yes	no
NT	no	no	yes	no

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

In addition to their annual reports, Local Government Grants Commissions now make supporting information available to councils on the Internet (see box 'Internet addresses for Local Government Grants Commissions' on p. 36). Table 2.12 provides a summary of DOTARS' assessment against the CGC's criterion of the adequacy of information Local Government Grants Commissions made available to all councils on 2001–02 grant allocations either in their annual reports or on the Internet.

CHAPTER 3

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE

The National Report is to include an assessment of the performance of councils of their functions, including their efficiency. The assessment is to be based on comparable national data and for the financial year under review.

At the time the legislation was passed in 1995, the Commonwealth's intention was to work with States and Local Government Associations to develop national performance indicators for Local Government. In support of this, a resolution had been passed at a meeting of the Local Government Ministers' Conference in April 1995. Local Government Ministers agreed to jointly pursue a three-pronged benchmarking and efficiency programme covering:

- the development of national performance indicators for specific services or functions, which measure not only unit costs but also quality and appropriateness of services
- processes of continuous improvement that enable councils and their staff to identify best practice through comparing their performance and strategies with other councils through informal networks of councils
- projects to develop, at a national level, specific new technologies, new practices and systemic reforms that substantially increase efficiency

and/or effectiveness of Local Government performance.

Progress in developing national performance indicators under the first prong of this strategy proved difficult.

In 1997, the Industry Commission (now the Productivity Commission) was asked to review the value and feasibility of developing national performance indicators for Local Government. It concluded that a nationally consistent approach to performance indicators was not warranted at that stage but that there would be considerable benefit to the community by improving existing State and Territory performance measurement systems.¹

It also concluded that, although national performance indicators would facilitate reporting by the Federal Minister on Local Government's performance in the National Report, this requirement could be met by providing information and analysis on:

- the application of the National Competition Policy to Local Government
- progress by the States in improving the use of performance indicators

¹ Industry Commission 1997, *Performance measures for councils: Improving Local Government performance indicators*, Research Report, Australian Government Publishing Service, Melbourne, October.

- developments in areas such as competitive tendering and contracting, increased use of service charters and measures of customer satisfaction, and changes in the structure of Local Government.

For the purpose of the 2001–02 National Report, State Local Government Ministers and Presidents of Local Government Associations were asked to provide a report to the Federal Government on measures taken in 2001–02 to improve efficiency and effectiveness of Local Government to deliver services. They were also asked to report on measures taken in 2001–02 to develop comparable performance indicators for Local Government. These reports are at Appendix G.

This chapter examines the reports in Appendix G in relation to the issues suggested by the Industry Commission.

Application of National Competition Policy in Local Government

At the 11 April 1995 meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), Federal and State Governments agreed to implement a package of legislative and administrative reforms called National Competition Policy (NCP). NCP is a national, coordinated approach to increasing competition in Australia across both business and industry in both the public and private sectors.

NCP has involved:

- separating the regulatory and commercial functions of public monopolies
- providing third party access to significant infrastructure facilities essential to competition
- requiring government business enterprises (GBEs) to face a similar tax and regulatory regime to private businesses
- reforming regulation that unjustifiably restricts competition
- applying trade practices legislation and prices scrutiny to GBEs.

Although Local Government was not formally a party to the NCP agreement, the reforms have impacted on Local Government. Councils have mainly been affected where:

- they operate 'significant government business enterprises' or 'undertake significant business activities' as part of a broader range of functions which compete with, or could compete with, private sector businesses, and/or
- they have regulations that unnecessarily restrict competition.

In addition, councils with water supply functions were affected by water industry reforms that were adopted by COAG in 1992. These are considered as 'related reform' and are part of the NCP reform package.

As part of NCP, the Commonwealth agreed to provide competition payments to the States. These payments are subject to regular assessments by the National Competition Council that the States are achieving satisfactory progress with NCP implementation. Progress by Local Government in implementing reforms may be considered as part of the Council's assessment of a State.

In 2001–02, \$733.3 million was provided in competition payments. These ranged from \$242.5 million to New South Wales to \$7.6 million to the Northern Territory. Only Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia have provided Local Government in their States with a portion of the competition payments as an incentive to implement reforms.

All States and Territories received their full allocation of payments in 2001–02, with the exception of Queensland. The National Competition Council found that:

while the Queensland Government has taken a positive and active approach to encouraging reform among Local Governments, one Local Government, Townsville City Council has failed to explain why introducing reform of water pricing within its jurisdiction is not in the public interest. In this assessment, the Council recommended a permanent reduction of \$270 000 in Queensland's NCP payments from 2001–02 (reflecting the remaining money available to Townsville Council for water reform through the Queensland Competition Authority's Financial Incentive Scheme). This reduction relates to the failure by Townsville City Council to take a rigorous approach to considering consumption-based price reforms. The Council will reconsider Townsville's approach to two-part tariffs in the 2002 NCP assessment. It will look at both the progress made by Townsville and the State Government's efforts to resolve the issue. At that time, the Council will reconsider whether a continued reduction in competition payments is warranted and the appropriate size of any such reduction.²

The Federal Government accepted this recommendation.

In the State reports at Appendix G, only New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania have reported on progress with NCP during 2001–02. In part, this reflects that the NCP reform process agreed in 1995 is now nearing completion.

New South Wales reported that, following a comprehensive review of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), amendments to the Act are proposed to remove a number of anti-competitive provisions.

In **Queensland**, the State Government has provided \$150 million (in 1994–95 dollars) from NCP payments to create a financial incentive package to encourage councils to implement NCP. Total funding of the package is conditional on Queensland receiving the full amount of its competition payments from the Federal Government.

By 30 March 2002, Queensland councils had nominated 736 of their business activities for reform under NCP. Once a business is nominated, councils must undertake reforms to be eligible for financial incentive package payments. Although councils are reported to have made good progress in implementing NCP reforms, the deadline for completion of reforms has been extended for a year from the original deadline of 30 June 2002.

On current trends, Queensland councils may miss out on \$50 to \$70 million in incentive payments. For this reason, a Business Management Assistance Programme was established in August 2001, funded using \$600 000 from the financial incentive package and administered by the Local Government Association of Queensland. As part of the programme, consultants work with the councils participating in NCP reforms to develop action plans to implement the remaining NCP reforms by the 30 June 2003 deadline. However, the programme's aims are broader than this. The programme seeks 'to improve the capacity of councils and to enhance their effectiveness in providing services to their community'.

The report for **Tasmania** documents progress since 1995 in implementing NCP reforms most of which occurred before 2001–02.

There were other NCP developments related to Local Government in 2001–02. The Productivity Commission undertook a review of Local Government exemptions under Section 2D of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*. Section 2D of the Act exempts Local Government licensing decisions and internal transactions from the competition provisions (in Part IV) of the Act. The exemption was reviewed in line with the Commonwealth's commitment under the Competition Principles Agreement to review all legislation that restricts competition to ensure that the legislation is of net benefit to community as a whole.

2 National Competition Council 2001, *Assessment of governments' progress in implementing the National Competition Policy and related reforms: June 2001*, AusInfo, Canberra.

Performance indicators

In support of State-based performance indicator systems for Local Government, the Federal Government has provided funding under the Local Government Development Programme and the Local Government Incentive Programme. For instance, it has provided:

- funding of \$200 000 in 1997–98 to the Victorian Government to develop a survey to measure community and customer satisfaction with councils
- funding of \$80 000 in 1997–98 to the Western Australian Government to develop key performance indicators for Local Government
- funding of \$85 000 in 1995–96 for the South Australian Government to develop performance indicators
- funding of \$150 000 in 1998–99 and \$50 000 in 2000–01 to the Local Government Association of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Government to develop key performance indicators
- funding of \$25 000 in 1996–97 and \$100 000 in 1998–99 for the Northern Territory Government to develop, amongst other things, a performance measurement system for Local Government.

A report from each of the States and Territories on their individual progress towards developing performance indicators is at Appendix G. From these reports, all States either have or are developing performance indicators but there are some major differences in approaches being taken and in the support and involvement of councils.

Most States have made performance information available through printed reports and published on the Internet and some States are able to provide the data for particular indicators for individual councils over a number of years.

A number of States have or are developing surveys to assess the level of satisfaction of customers to the services councils provide. Victoria has had such a survey in place for five years (see box 'Victoria's community satisfaction survey 2002', p.57), while South Australia and Tasmania are in the process of developing these surveys. Such surveys, particularly when undertaken on a State-wide basis, can provide valuable feedback to councils and their associations not only on their performance, relative to that of other council in the State, of the services they provide but also on the particular council services that are of concern to their community and require attention. These surveys help to measure the effectiveness of the delivery of councils' services.

New South Wales released a report in September 2002 on comparative information for councils for 2000–01. This is the 11th edition of this publication available both as a printed publication and from the Internet at www.dlg.nsw.gov.au.

The publication permits comparisons for a single measure:

- across a number of years for each council
- across similar councils for the same year by grouping councils using a version of the Australian Classification of Local Governments (ACLGs).

In addition to the performance measures, some basic contextual information (such as population and area density) is provided for each council.

Victoria has moved away from its suite of 76 indicators that had been developed to measure the health and performance of councils. The focus has moved to requiring councils to report to its community through their annual reports. For 2000–01, seven indicators were required:

- the overall performance of the council as measured by the annual community satisfaction survey

Victoria's community satisfaction survey 2002

This was the fifth survey of Victorian residents' perceptions about the performance of councils with 75 of the 78 councils participating.

Across Victoria, 48 per cent of respondents rated their council's performance as 'excellent' or 'good' in 2002. This compares with a result of 47 per cent in 2001 and only 38 per cent in 1998. In 2002, 22 per cent of respondents rated their councils' performance as 'needs improving' compared with 21 per cent in 2001 and 31 per cent in 1998.

In 2002, the performance of councils against two attributes – recreational facilities and economic development – showed a statistically significant improvement in comparison to 2001. In the case of economic development, the change was driven by improved opinions of their council amongst respondents in inner metropolitan councils, large rural cities and regional centres, and large rural shires.

Metropolitan respondents were generally more satisfied than rural and regional respondents with their council's services. In particular, metropolitan respondents rated more positively

their council's overall performance, advocacy, local roads and footpaths, recreational facilities and waste management. Rural and regional respondents rated their council's performance more positively in health and human services, traffic management and parking facilities and the appearance of public areas.

An analysis was undertaken of the individual services that had an impact on the overall performance of councils across Victoria. From this analysis, the most important drivers of the overall performance of councils were:

- local roads and footpaths
- economic development
- town planning policy and approvals
- recreational facilities
- the appearance of public areas.

Further details of the survey can be found in *Annual community satisfaction survey 2002: research results*, prepared for the Victorian Department of Infrastructure by Newton Wayman Chong & Associates.

- the average rates paid by all properties, including residential, commercial and farms
- the average rates paid by residential households
- the expenditure per rating assessment on services to the community
- the expenditure per rating assessment on renewing, replacing and providing infrastructure such as roads, bridges, building;
- the level of debt and other liabilities per rating assessment
- the operating result (that is, income less costs) per rating assessment.

Victoria did not publicly release the 2000–01 values of these key indicators for all councils. Instead, it published a report, *Local Government in Victoria 2001*, which provided the median value of the key indicators for councils in each of five council groups: inner metropolitan, outer metropolitan, regional cities, large shires and small shires.

Councils will report against four additional indicators in their 2001–02 annual reports.

The 2000-01 edition of the **Queensland** Local Government Comparative Information report was released in July 2002. The report provides indicators of efficiency, effectiveness and quality

of services as well as providing contextual information to assist comparisons of councils. Also included for the first time is time series data over the four years from 1997–98 to 2000–01. This allows a comparison of an indicator over a number of years for a particular council. The report is available as a printed document as well as available for download from www1.dlqp.qld.gov.au/estore/local_govt/.

Queensland has also held training workshops to promote the development, application and integration of performance measurement processes within councils.

The **Western Australian** Government states that, although indicators have been developed in Western Australia, the reporting of comparative indicators across councils appears to be problematic at this stage. This is because most councils have not achieved a 'satisfactory level of performance measurement and disclosure'. Some indicators for councils are being calculated from council data available in financial statements and information returns to other agencies.

In **South Australia**, the Local Government Association is responsible for developing a comparative performance measurement system for councils.

The development and testing of 18 sector-wide comparative corporate performance measures has been completed and data for the measures has been collected. Included in the data is a community survey of residents. Individual results will be distributed to councils in 2002–03.

The intention is for the Association to manage the collection and distribution of performance information on an annual basis.

The 2000–01 report on performance indicators for councils in **Tasmania** was released in April 2002. All councils provided data on a voluntary basis for the publication of 51 key performance indicators.

In August 2001, the Tasmanian Local Government Association received Federal funding under the Local Government Incentive Programme to commission a State-wide customer satisfaction survey. During October 2001, approximately 1300 residents across the State participated in a telephone survey. The survey measured both the importance residents attached to, and the satisfaction they derived from, each service. A report on the survey's findings is available from the Association.

In the **Northern Territory**, the publication of performance indicators for Local Government is in its fourth year. Different approaches have been taken in the development of performance indicators for the municipal and larger councils compared to the smaller and remote councils. Despite this, the failure of a number of councils to provide data has resulted in a review of the method used to collect the data.

The Industry Commission in its research report on comparative indicators for Local Government stated that the goal for performance measurement should be to develop and publish dispassionate and objective data to facilitate well-informed judgements that result in sound public policy action. It also pointed to the following lessons it had learned through its work in developing performance indicators for government service provision:

- Performance measurement is best linked to service outcome objectives directly.
- It is important to develop a framework for outcome indicators.
- The performance measurement process is likely to work more effectively when it:
 - tackles data issues iteratively
 - makes any assumptions and qualifications transparent
 - is managed independently of service providers but takes advice from them.

- The context in which services are delivered needs to be taken into account in interpreting reported performance.
- Performance measurement does not obviate the need for sound judgement that takes account of the local conditions and preferences, when assessing the level of performance.³

The approaches the States have adopted for developing comparative indicators for Local Government do not appear to have accepted much of the Commission's advice.

Other State developments

In addition to NCP reforms and the development of performance indicators for Local Government, States report on other activities they have instituted in support of improving Local Government performance. Details of these activities are provided in Appendix G. Some examples follow.

Best value — Victoria

In December 1999, the Victorian Government introduced a 'best value' approach that enables councils to review a service so that they may determine the most effective means of providing that service to the community. All councils are required to apply best value principles to their services by December 2005.

The six best value principles are:

- There must be quality and cost standards set for all services that a council provides to the community.
- All services provided by a council must be responsive to the needs of the community.
- Each service provided by a council must be accessible to those members of the community for whom the service is intended.
- A council must achieve continuous improvement when providing services to the community.

- A council must develop a program of regular consultation with its community in relation to the services it provides.
- A council must report regularly to its community on its achievements in relation to the best value principles.

In December 2000, a Local Government Best Value Commission was established. The Commission is an advisory body comprised three independent experts who will advise the Minister on the implementation of best value in Victoria. The Commission will not focus on the performance of individual councils.

Legislative Review — Victoria

Victoria reported on the review of the State's Local Government Act. In response to the review, amendments to the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Constitution Act 1975* are planned to formalise the place of Local Government in the Victorian Constitution, ensure greater public accountability and transparency, reform electoral procedures and improve the functioning of Local Government.

Strategic management plans — South Australia

In South Australia, all councils were required to develop and adopt strategic management plans by 1 July 2002. The intention is that these plans articulate the council's goals and objectives and its vision for the community. The plans should also complement the State's planning strategy.

These plans form part of an accountability cycle and management framework. Councils are required to:

- link strategic plans with operational plans and council policies designed to achieve the objectives that have been identified
- set out ways of monitoring whether their activities are achieving their objectives
- report on these in their annual reports.

3 Industry Commission 1997, op. cit., p. 39.

Federal activities to support Local Government performance improvement

National Awards for Local Government

The National Awards for Local Government foster and acknowledge innovation and excellence in Local Government. The awards identify and reward Local Government bodies, associations and other collaborating organisations who are developing and implementing innovative, resourceful practices that improve Local Government outcomes and help build sustainable Australian communities.

For 2002, national awards categories were:

- business and regional development
- community services
- engineering and infrastructure, planning and urban design
- environment, natural resource management, partnerships for biodiversity conservation
- environment: sustaining local communities – Local Agenda 21
- financial management
- health services and aged care
- information technology
- organisational practices
- youth services
- a special award for strengthening Indigenous communities.

Summaries of all entries for the 2002 National Awards for Local Government are included in the publication *Leading Practice in Local Government Guide Book 2002*. The guide book was circulated to all local governing bodies in November 2002. It is available on the Internet at www.nolg.gov.au.

For full details of winning projects and category awards, see Appendix I.

Leading Practice Seminar Series

The Leading Practice Seminar Series is a Department of Transport and Regional Services initiative started in 2000 as a means of providing entrants for the National Awards for Local Government the opportunity to share their experiences with other councils around Australia.

The seminar series, which is managed in partnership with councils, regional organisations of councils and Local Government Associations, provides an opportunity for councils to meet and exchange information with the Award winners. The award winners that attend a seminar are selected by the councils involved in the seminar. The seminar series also allows councils to hear about project case studies from their colleagues and to discuss how those case studies might apply in their particular situation.

CHAPTER 4

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

This chapter discusses some of the challenges facing Local Government in providing and maintaining its infrastructure. The chapter begins with an estimate of the value of Local Government infrastructure. It then examines Federal funding for local roads, the proposed *AusLink* initiative, recent State infrastructure studies and strategies to improve management of Local Government's infrastructure. It covers Local Government regional road planning arrangements in place in some States. The chapter concludes with an examination of data available on Local Government expenditure on environmental and natural resource management and on flood mitigation.

Local Government infrastructure responsibilities

Local Government plans, develops and maintains key infrastructure for its communities. It provides and maintains infrastructure such as local roads, bridges, footpaths, water and sewerage (in some states), drainage, waste disposal and public buildings. Local Government also has planning responsibilities that affect the provision of infrastructure, whether by government or business. These responsibilities include

rezoning of land, subdivision approval, town and environmental planning, development assessment and building regulation.

Through traffic management, Local Government seeks to maximise transport benefits while minimising the environmental impacts of transport infrastructure. Local Government also provides a range of social infrastructure such as recreational and cultural facilities, and in smaller communities, through its leadership, it makes a major contribution to human capital infrastructure.

In recent years a number of studies have highlighted concerns about the condition of Local Government infrastructure and its impact on local communities. These studies include:

- reports on Local Government infrastructure in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales which are discussed below
- presentations to the annual Rural Roads Congress
- the final report of the Regional Australia Summit Steering Committee (issued in December 2000).

What is Local Government infrastructure?

Local Government infrastructure comprises the assets that provide people with access to economic and social facilities and services. It includes buildings, other construction infrastructure (including local roads), and plant and equipment.

In general, infrastructure facilities have high capital costs, are time-consuming to plan and build, are durable and have low operating costs, and are often networks. They often have environmental and social benefits that are not fully recovered by user charges.

Valuing Local Government infrastructure

The Australian Bureau of Statistics estimates that at June 2001, Local Government owned land and fixed assets worth \$147 billion. Land was worth about \$41 billion. Buildings, other construction infrastructure, and plant and equipment are worth \$106 billion (see Table 4.1). Other construction infrastructure, which includes local roads, was worth \$90.7 billion, so in 2000–01 local roads were worth something less than \$90.7 billion (in 1999–2000, these were

less than \$87.3 billion). Note this figure is net of depreciation. That is, the infrastructure is valued in its present condition. This means that these figures will differ from those in State studies referred to later in this chapter that use current replacement cost to value infrastructure.

Trends in spending on infrastructure: findings of the Commonwealth Grants Commission inquiry

Local Government capacity to fund infrastructure is constrained by its general revenue raising capacity. Currently, Local Government raises about \$17 billion in revenue a year. Most revenue comes from rates and user charges but the Federal Government supplements Local Governments' own sources of income with Local Government financial assistance grants (see Chapters 1 and 2).

The Commonwealth Grants Commission review of the operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* found that, since the introduction of the original Act in 1974–75, Local Government revenue from all sources has grown at 10.1 per cent a year. Federal Government assistance to Local Government

Table 4.1 Value of selected Local Government infrastructure, June 2001 (fixed assets) \$million
(net of depreciation)

Type of Infrastructure	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	Total
8162 Buildings	3 924	3 757	1 980	1 542	1 038	360	85	12 687
8163 Other construction infrastructure ¹	33 720	14 961	25 657	8 072	4 627	2 932	736	90 705
8164 Plant and equipment	1 004	435	838	407	205	74	7	2 970
Total infrastructure	38 648	19 153	28 475	10 021	5 870	3 366	828	106 362

Note: 1 Includes railways, roads, bridges, tunnels, airports, harbours, pipelines, dams and the like.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics catalogue no. 5512 disaggregated by Australian Bureau of Statistics.

has grown even faster – at an annual average rate of 10.8 per cent – while State assistance has grown at the much slower rate of 6.6 per cent.

The Commission found that Local Government is increasingly providing human services (social welfare type services) at the expense of traditional property-based services (particularly roads). Although road expenditure remains the largest function, the Commission found its importance has declined from about half of total expenditure in the 1960s to a little more than a quarter in the 1990s.

The Commission reports that a number of factors have contributed to downgrading the importance of maintaining local road infrastructure – community pressure to broaden the range of Local Government services, unfunded mandates from other spheres of government, and revenue-raising restrictions (rate pegging, fee capping and rate concessions/exemptions). The findings of the review are being examined as part of the current Inquiry into Local Government and cost shifting (see Chapter 6).

More funds for local roads: the Roads to Recovery Programme

In November 2000, the Federal Government announced a \$1.2 billion boost in its funding for local roads through the Roads to Recovery Programme (see Table 4.2). In May 2001, it provided an extra \$8 million for roads in unincorporated areas.

The programme began in January 2001 and will expire on 30 June 2005. It aims, in particular, to provide councils with the financial capacity to repair roads that are approaching the end of their life. The grants are paid directly to councils and are additional to the Federal Local Government financial assistance grants mentioned above. Some \$850 million of the Roads to Recovery funding will be spent in rural and regional Australia.

In the first two years, \$560 million was provided to councils under Roads to Recovery. Of the projects lodged for funding:

- 46 per cent were for reconstruction, rehabilitation and widening of existing roads
- 33 per cent were for re-gravelling, sealing and resealing work

Table 4.2 Roads to Recovery Programme funding

State/Territory	Initial four year allocation (\$m)	Additional amounts for unincorporated areas (\$m)	Total (\$m)
NSW	340	3.8	343.8
Vic	250	0.2	250.2
Qld	250	–	250.0
WA	180	–	180.0
SA	100	4.0	104.0
Tas	40	–	40.0
NT	20	–	20.0
ACT	20	–	20.0
Total	1 200	8.0	1 208.0

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services

- 11 per cent were for bridges and drainage work.

The Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Australian Local Government Association are working together to review the programme as part of consideration of its possible continuation beyond June 2005.

AusLink: a new national land transport plan

In November 2002, the Federal Government released a green paper for discussion outlining its new national land transport plan called *AusLink*. The paper noted that the total freight transport task was likely to almost double by 2020, increasing congestion, greenhouse gasses and other transport costs. Passenger transport was also likely to grow, putting further pressure on infrastructure. Existing land use and transport planning and funding arrangements would not be adequate to meet this challenge.

AusLink aims to develop transport corridors of strategic national importance such as rail and road links between cities and to improve connections to production and distribution centres and major ports and airports. It will develop a rolling five-year multi-modal national plan for the network, based on input from both the public and private sectors. It will fund the projects that best contribute to national objectives on the strategic transport network and incorporate the best solutions embracing, wherever possible, new technology and better management systems.

A new inter-governmental agreement is proposed between the Federal, State and Local Governments to underpin new planning and funding arrangements for the network. Joint public and private sector development of projects will be encouraged to increase the pool of funding. A national advisory body will be established to advise transport ministers on

priorities for national infrastructure investment and reforms to support inter-modal integration and infrastructure pricing. New *AusLink* project evaluation methods will be developed to help improve the quality of decisions and allocation of resources. Over time *AusLink* will evolve into a broader national transport policy by integrating improvements to infrastructure, systems, regulation, safety, environment and other land transport issues.

Under *AusLink*, the Federal Government proposes to amalgamate its land transport funding programmes into a single programme. Funding for *AusLink*, in the proposed initial year of operation of 2004–05 will bring together National Highway System funding, Roads of National Importance Programme and rail funding after outstanding firm project commitments are met. Black Spots may also be funded as part of *Auslink* if the programme is renewed after 2005–06. *Auslink* will encourage leveraging of funds from project partners. Current funding commitments for key transport programmes affecting Local Government – the identified local roads component of the financial assistance grants, the \$1 208 million in Roads to Recovery Programme grants to 2005 and the current \$180 million Black Spot Programme to 2005–06 – will be retained.

AusLink will open up new opportunities for Local Government. First, Local Government will be able to participate in planning the national transport system with Federal and State Governments through a new inter-governmental agreement and by participating in working groups that are refining aspects of *AusLink*. Secondly, the green paper suggests that councils could consider grouping together to pool, say, 15 per cent to 20 per cent of their local road grants under any future arrangement to help fund priority regional land transport infrastructure. This funding could be used to leverage additional funding from project partners. Regional Road groups

established in South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland have already begun to identify their strategic local road links and are well placed to take these proposals forward.

The Government sought comments on the green paper, which is available at www.dotars.gov.au/transinfra/auslink.htm, by 7 February 2003.

State developments

Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia and South Australia have recently undertaken studies into various aspects of Local Government infrastructure. In addition, councils in Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia are working or intend to work on a regional basis to address local road needs. These issues are discussed below.

Victorian Local Government infrastructure study, 1998

In January 2000, Victoria's Government released a report on a stocktake of its Local Government infrastructure undertaken in 1998, called *Facing the renewal challenge*. The report valued Victoria's local roads, the bridges, footpaths, drains, parks, recreational facilities and public buildings at \$23.3 billion in current replacement costs. It put long-term consumption of these assets at \$704 million a year and renewal and maintenance at \$471 million a year, leaving an annual infrastructure deficit of \$233 million a year. For more details of this study, see last year's National Report.

Municipal Association of Victoria benchmarking study, November 2001

In 2001, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) benchmarked infrastructure asset management amongst councils. It found that all 66 councils that participated in its benchmarking study failed to meet best appropriate practice

infrastructure asset management and that Victoria's top performing councils were lagging relative to their Australian peers (p. ii of the *Municipal asset management review*).

The review found 'only 23 per cent of the asset groups listed are reported as having their depreciation fully funded by councils' (p. 38), implying that the gap between asset consumption and renewal was widening.

It found that 'The data collected by municipalities is primarily used for Asset Reporting and Asset Costing purposes. It is rarely used for Life Cycle Cost Analysis or for determining an asset's Fit-for Use or Predicting Service Levels' (p. v). The MAV has since launched a 'step-by-step' asset management improvement programme to establish a common best practice model and reporting framework for Victoria's councils. This programme has 55 participants to date.

Victoria's Auditor General audit of road asset management practices, June 2002

In June 2002, the Auditor General of Victoria released a performance audit report of road asset management practices of nine councils called *Management of roads by Local Government*. The report found that:

- Victoria's 78 councils' road infrastructure was worth \$14.4 billion at June 2001. Roads represented 51 per cent of total council assets and the funding gap between the actual and required level of spending on infrastructure asset renewal and maintenance had widened significantly since the 1998 *Facing the Renewal Challenge* report. It is now estimated at between \$1.4 billion and \$2.75 billion over 5 years (pp. 3–4).
- Councils were 'unable to determine with any degree of certainty the overall condition of road assets or whether they will reach their optimum useful lives' (p. 4). As the Victoria

Grants Commission is not provided with information from councils about the age and useful life of their road assets, it cannot assess the accuracy of assumptions supporting its funding allocation model (p. 7).

- None of the nine councils examined had high quality Road Asset Management Plans that showed stakeholders the current cost of providing road services and the cost of sustaining that level of service in the longer term (p. 5). Little regard had been given to identifying community needs and expectations about service delivery levels and standards for road assets (p. 6).
- None of the nine councils had fully developed links between road asset management plans, corporate and business planning and budgetary processes. Forward plans were little more than indexed short-term extrapolations, which did not permit councils to analyse upcoming renewal cycles (p. 6).

Councils were critical of the findings and their views are reproduced in the report.

Victoria's Department of Infrastructure has been assisting Local Government by providing grants to a number of rural councils to help develop asset management plans. It has also provided one-on-one support to a number of pilot councils to establish sound asset management planning, and organised a workshop for councillors on strategic asset management.

New South Wales Local Government transport infrastructure

An analysis of 2001–02 council annual reports by the New South Wales Department of Local Government puts the value of Local Government transport infrastructure in the State at \$30.8 billion and the cost to render this infrastructure to a satisfactory condition at \$3.7 billion¹. The analysis showed councils need to spend \$579 million a year on infrastructure

maintenance but are spending \$423 million a year on maintenance, leaving an annual shortfall of \$156 million a year. Thus the department estimates that the average NSW council, with transport assets worth \$173 million, faces a \$0.9 million shortfall in asset maintenance funding.

South Australian Local Government infrastructure study, 2001

The Local Government Metropolitan Chief Executive Officers' Association report, titled *A wealth of opportunities*, foreshadows a looming Local Government infrastructure funding shortfall in South Australia over the next 20 to 30 years. The study found that South Australian councils have \$8 billion in assets, with roads and footpaths worth \$4.8 billion. The average annual cost of renewing the assets over the five years to 2004–05 is about 2 per cent of their value or \$160 million a year. The report found that councils are under-funding infrastructure maintenance by \$105 million a year. Councils invest \$55 million a year on asset renewal (7 per cent of council revenue), but they need to spend \$160 million a year now (19 per cent of council revenue) to maintain existing infrastructure. For more details on the study see last year's National Report.

South Australian councils set aside 15 per cent of their local road financial assistance grants to fund roads of regional significance. This enables councils and the State Government to work together to improve transport and infrastructure planning on a regional basis and fund strategic local roads.

Western Australian local road planning

Western Australia has well-established local road planning arrangements that enable councils to identify, prioritise and fund their strategic local road network and to monitor the adequacy of their road preservation expenditure.

1 Personal communication with Mr Farooq Portelli, Principal Finance Officer, New South Wales Department of Local Government.

Western Australia allocates 7 per cent of its local road financial assistance grants to special roads projects (one-third for roads serving Aboriginal communities and two-thirds for major bridge works). The remaining 93 per cent is spent in accordance with road preservation needs determined by the State's Local Government Grant Commission's Asset Preservation Model. The model assesses the average annual cost of maintaining each Local Government's road network and has the facility to equalise road standards through application of minimum standards. The use of standards in the model helps the funding of those Local Governments that have not been able to develop their road systems to the same standard as more affluent Local Governments.

In the mid-1990s the Western Australian Government, with the Western Australian Local Government Association and community groups, developed a series of regional road strategies that defined strategic road networks and developed a master-plan called *Roads 2020* for local roads throughout the State. The latest State Road Funds to Local Government Agreement began in 2000–01.

Under the Agreement, one-quarter of the State's road-related revenue (for example, vehicle registration charges and fuel franchise fees) is available to councils for local roads, with a guaranteed minimum allocation of \$90 million a year for each of the five years. An advisory committee with State and Local Government representation makes recommendations to the State Transport Minister on how these funds should be spent. Ten regional road groups have been established with a membership of elected Local Government representatives to make recommendations to the advisory committee on the annual local road programme for their region.

Each year, councils provide statistical data to the Western Australian Local Government Association for publication in their *Local Government Road Assets and Expenditure Report*.

The 2000–01 report states that Western Australian local roads had a replacement value of \$10.9 billion at 30 June 2001 and a written down value of \$7.1 billion (65 per cent of replacement value). The percentage for a well-managed road network would be about 75 per cent (p. 1 of the report).

Local Government expenditure on roads reached \$354.9 million in 2000–01. Of this, \$123.1 million was spent on maintenance, \$108.7 million on renewal of existing roads, \$98.4 million on upgrading and \$24.7 million on capital expansion. Spending on renewal represents 1 per cent of the replacement value of the local roads or around half the expenditure necessary (pp. 2–3).

In 2000–01, the State Government provided \$92.4 million (26 per cent) of the money that councils spent on roads. Since the first agreement on road funding with the State Government, Local Government spending from its own resources has increased 24 per cent from \$142.7 million in 1996–97 to \$177.1 million in 2000–01 (pp. 1 and 6).

As a result, Western Australian councils have narrowed the gap between road preservation needs and road spending in recent years. The 2000–01 assets and expenditure report states that councils should be spending \$293.1 million a year on road preservation, but are spending \$231.8 million, leaving a deficit of \$61.3 million (p. 2). This compares with a deficit of \$74.7 million in 1997–98, \$66.7 million in 1998–99 and \$59.8 million in 1999–2000 (see previous reports). The Federal Roads to Recovery grants of \$180 million over five years (see Table 4.2) should enable councils to further trim the deficit over the next few years.

With Federal funding assistance, one of the regional road groups, the Great Southern Regional Road Group, has gone one step further and is piloting regional transport planning arrangements.

Queensland Local Roads Management and Investment Alliance

A Local Roads Management and Investment Alliance has recently been established by the State Government and the Local Government Association of Queensland. Under the Alliance, 10 to 12 regional road groups will be formed to determine regional priorities. The groups will also guide decision-making for investment and road management of Local Roads of Regional Significance across Queensland. The alliance will be funded through a five-year road funding programme.

Implementation of the alliance is expected to take about two years. It will involve establishment of regional road groups, identification of local roads of regional significance, improved asset management practices, prioritisation processes and funds allocations, and investigation of enhanced joint purchasing arrangements and resource sharing opportunities and joint capability development.

Road funding responsibilities of each sphere of government

Australia has about 810 000 kilometres of public roads: about 326 000 kilometres are sealed and 484 000 kilometres are unsealed (unformed, formed or gravel); and almost 640 000 kilometres (80 per cent) are local roads (see Table 4.3).

Under the 1991 Premiers' Conference Agreement, the Federal Government funds National Highways, State Governments fund arterial roads, and Local Governments fund the local roads. Together they spend about \$7 billion a year on Australian roads (see Table 4.4).

In practice, the limited revenue-raising capacity of councils sees both Federal and State Governments contributing to local road funding. The Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics study *Spending on local roads* shows that in 1997–98,

Local Government spent \$2 713 million on local roads (see Table 4.5). The study shows that \$1 930 million was from their own funds, \$365 million was provided by the Federal Government, \$293 million by State Governments and \$125 million was provided by the private sector (mainly new estate developer contributions). About 70 per cent of local road spending is on asset preservation.

Other infrastructure issues

Local roads are not the only infrastructure for which councils are responsible. Stormwater and waste management and water supply are major issues for councils. This section outlines some of the data available on this infrastructure.

Local Governments' water, sewerage and waste management infrastructure

Local Government is responsible for water supply in Queensland, Tasmania and regional New South Wales. Elsewhere this is a responsibility of the State or of regional utilities. Local Governments are responsible for management of solid waste in every State.

Environmental revenue and expenditure

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (cat. no. 4611.0) has released data on the revenue and expenditure of Local Governments' water and waste management infrastructure. The data shows that in 2000–01, Australian Local Governments **received** nearly \$2.3 billion for environment protection activities (mainly waste-water and solid waste processing activities) and about \$1.3 billion for natural resource management (total \$3.6 billion). In 2000–01, Local Government **spent** \$2.5 billion on environmental protection measures and a further \$1.8 billion on natural resource management (total \$4.3 billion).

In terms of cost recovery, revenue from **water supply** of \$1.1 billion exceeded expenditure

Table 4.3 Local road length by State in 2000–01 (km and %)

State	Road length (km)	Road length (%)
NSW	142 460	22.29
Vic	127 727	19.99
Qld	144 469	22.60
WA	121 565	19.02
SA	74 334	11.63
Tas	14 079	2.20
NT	12 562	1.97
ACT	1 848	0.29
Total	639 044	100.00

Source: State and Territory Local Government grants commissions and the Australian Capital Territory Department of Urban Services

Table 4.4 Funding of roads by sphere of government, 1997–98

	\$ million	% of total
Commonwealth	1 636	23
State	3 379	48
Local	2 000	29
Total	7 014	100

Source: Bureau of Transport Economics 2000, *Rural roads: the economic perspective*, by Mark Harvey, March, p. 2.

Table 4.5 Local road funding by sphere of government, 1997–98 (\$m)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	Total	Total %
Council ¹	503	353	580	296	131	67	1 930	71
Federal	112	80	72	60	20	21	365	13
State	181	14	40	58	0	0	293	11
Private sector	36	40	38	11	n/a	n/a	125	5
Total	832	487	730	425	151	88	2 713	100

Note: 1 Funding from all sources of council funds including rates and untied grants from other spheres of Government.

Source: Bureau of Transport Economics 2001, Spending on local roads, working paper 44, p.13, Tables 2.3 and 2.4.

of \$770 million, generating a \$330 million surplus. Revenue from **waste-water** was \$1.1 billion, which covered expenses. Revenue from **solid waste** of \$1.1 billion almost covered expenses of \$1.2 billion. But revenue from **land management** of \$218 million covered less than a quarter of expenses of \$933 million. Land management includes zoning, processing of development applications, management of recreational parks and sporting fields and management of some crown land. Overall, expenditure on environmental measures and natural resource management exceeded revenue by \$700 million.

Ratepayers provided 85 per cent of the revenue for environmental protection and 81 per cent of the revenue for natural resource management. Government subsidies and grants for these activities contributed less than 7 per cent of the revenue (\$169 million for environment protection and \$62 million for natural resource management).

Expenditure figures include almost \$1 billion in capital expenditure – \$616 million on environment protection and \$370 million on natural resource management.

Benefits of flood mitigation

Victoria's *Facing the renewal challenge* study showed that Local Government has a significant investment in drainage infrastructure, comprising about 15 per cent of its Local Government assets. Average annual asset consumption was just over 1 per cent a year. Maintaining this infrastructure in good condition is important to the community.

A Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics study, *Benefits of flood mitigation* (Report 106), shows how important flood mitigation measures are. The report finds that 'On average, floods cost the Australian community over \$300 million each year' (p. 1). The report shows that flood modification measures such as levees, dams and bitumen sealing of roads, and property modification measures such as zoning, land use planning and building regulation, are successful in reducing the annual cost of floods.

CHAPTER 5

SERVICES TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Governments in Australia, including Local Government, have a critical role to play in improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous people. In many locations, this means there is a need for far greater effort and collaboration to improve Indigenous access to mainstream services and, in some instances, to align the appropriateness of such services with Indigenous requirements.

Indigenous people in context

Indigenous Australians compare unfavourably against the national average on most socioeconomic indicators. For example, there is high mortality amongst Indigenous Australians compared to the total population. Data covering 1997 to 1999 show that the life expectancy for Indigenous males was 55.6 years compared with 76.2 years for all males. For Indigenous females, life expectancy was 63.0 years compared with 81.8 years for all females. In 1998, the infant mortality rate for Indigenous Australians was 14.1 deaths per 1000 live births compared with 5.7 deaths for the total population.

At the 2001 Census, Indigenous Australians numbered some 410 000 people. Some 2.2 per cent of the Australian population identified

as Indigenous, up from 2.1 per cent at the time of the 1996 Census. Table 5.1 provides the number of Indigenous people by State and as a proportion of each State and the national populations. It shows that the Indigenous percentage of State populations varied considerably – from 0.5 per cent in Victoria to 25.1 per cent in the Northern Territory. Also, over 83 per cent of the Indigenous population reside in just four States – New South Wales (29.2 per cent), Queensland (27.5 per cent), Western Australia (14.3 per cent) and the Northern Territory (12.4 per cent).

The Australian Bureau of Statistics notes that there continues to be an increased likelihood of people identifying as being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin in the census and surveys.

Across councils within a State, there is considerable variation in the distribution of Indigenous people. Most Indigenous people live in urban areas. But the Indigenous population is less urbanised than the total population.

Table 5.1 Estimates of State Indigenous populations, at 30 June 2001

State	Indigenous population '000	Total population '000	Proportion of total State population %	Proportion of Indigenous population %
NSW	119.9	6 371.7	1.9	29.2
Vic	25.1	4 645.0	0.5	6.1
Qld	112.8	3 655.1	3.1	27.5
WA	58.5	1 851.3	3.2	14.3
SA	23.4	1 467.3	1.6	5.7
Tas	15.8	456.7	3.5	3.9
NT	50.8	210.7	25.1	12.4
ACT	3.6	311.9	1.2	0.9
Total¹	410.0	18 972.4	2.2	100.0

Note: 1 Includes Jervis Bay Territory and Commonwealth External Territories.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians: A Statistical profile from the 2001 Census, 2002 Year Book*.

Reporting requirements

The *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* requires an assessment, based on comparable national data, of the delivery of Local Government services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

To date, no performance measures have been developed to assess performance of councils in providing services to Indigenous people. However, in the past all States, the Commonwealth and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) provided annual reports to the Local Government Ministers' Conference on progress in improving Local Government service provision to Indigenous communities. Subsequently, the States' reports were published in the corresponding National Report.

For 2001–02, progress reports from State agencies and for Local Government associations on Local Government service provision to Indigenous communities are provided at Appendix H. These reports identify a range of priorities, strategies and actions, and a variety of differing approaches.

State reports

When the State reports are examined, it is evident that there are different priorities across the jurisdictions and varied progress. In some jurisdictions there is considerable energy and commitment with a range of positive developments. The following summarises just some of the positive initiatives being taken.

In **New South Wales**, as at June 2001 the number of Local Government advisory committees had increased to 63, up from 45 in June 2000. These committees have made a significant contribution to improving communication, understanding and trust between Indigenous people and Local Government. Also in NSW, following the decision of the 2000 Local Government Association of NSW Annual Conference, NSW Aboriginal Land Councils are now full members of the Association and were fully represented at the 2001 Annual Conference.

In **Victoria**, the Department of Infrastructure in concert with the Municipal Association of Victoria and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Commission published a report on the study of factors that influence the nature of relationships between Local Government and Indigenous communities in Victoria. *Toomnangi: Indigenous Communities and Local Government*, provides Local Government with case studies, examples, statistics and ideas on initiatives that can strengthen community relationships and can help advance the reconciliation process.

Queensland is providing a substantial level of programme assistance for improving the level of service provision to Indigenous communities. Programmes include, amongst others, the Smaller Communities Assistance Programme, the Rural Living Infrastructure Programme and the State Government Financial Aid Programme.

In **Western Australia** on 10 October 2001 a partnership between the State Government and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission State Council was established as a basis for reconciliation. The partnership is intended as a framework that will lead to the support of Indigenous people in negotiating regional and local level agreements according to the priorities of the Aboriginal communities. An Indigenous Affairs Advisory Committee has also been established, with one of its aims to facilitate the better use of resources.

In **South Australia**, implementation of a number of recommendations relating to nine programme areas, stemming from the August 2000 *Local councils belong to Aboriginal people 2* report, has continued. Among developments, the Inter-Governmental Local Government/Aboriginal Network met with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission State Executive Committee in November 2001 to determine opportunities for forward planning links between Local Government councils and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Regional Councils.

Also in South Australia, with Commonwealth financial assistance, the Partnership Local Government/Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elections and Voting Project has been undertaken. The project identified culturally appropriate material to be developed to support councils and to foster interest among the Aboriginal population in nominating for council within their Local Government area. The project also sought to respond to the continuing lack of awareness of voting rights, the low level of nominations as candidates for Local Government elections and the consistently low levels of voter turnout by Aboriginal people in Local Government elections.

In **Tasmania**, the State Government is seeking to improve links between Local Government and Indigenous communities to deal with issues that affect Indigenous people and to improve the level of participation of Indigenous people in Local Government.

While further effort is required to improve service levels to Indigenous communities there have been some outstanding individual success stories at the Local Government level. Some of these have been recognised through the National Awards for Local Government initiative. In 2002, Strengthening Indigenous Communities was included as a special Local Government Award category for the first time. Further information about the awards, categories and category winners is included at Appendix I.

Access to services – recent assessments

One key indicator of the level of municipal services available to Indigenous communities is the *Housing and Infrastructure in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities Survey* completed in 2001 and published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in May 2002. The survey collected selected information on

Indigenous organisations that provide housing to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As well as details of housing stock, dwelling management, selected income and expenditure arrangements, the survey also collected information on the status of housing, infrastructure, education, health and other services available in discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities throughout Australia.

Although this survey covers only 108 085 people in 1 216 discrete communities served by Indigenous housing organisations (see Table 5.2), it gives a snapshot of the level of services accessible to remote communities in general and Indigenous communities in particular. Many of the issues highlighted by the survey are related to municipal services. They include water supply, sewerage systems, electricity supply and road maintenance.

Since the last Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities Survey in 1999 there have been some significant improvements. These include a reduction in the proportion of people living in temporary dwellings, an increase in the proportion of permanent dwellings connected to water, power and sewerage systems and a reduction in sewerage system overflows and leakages.

In 2001, flooding and drainage were again reported as major problem areas with a substantial number of communities reporting flooding, ponding and cuts to road access. Water quality was either not tested or had failed testing in the 12 months prior to the survey in 46 per cent of the 213 Indigenous communities not connected to a town water supply with a population of 50 people or more. Two per cent of the communities surveyed in 2001 reported having no organised water supply with 20 of the 21 communities in this category having a usual population of less than 20.

Bore water was the main source of drinking water for 784 of the surveyed communities representing a combined total of 66 531 people. 186 of the Indigenous communities with a usual population of 50 or more had town water as a main source of supply for a combined population of 18 134 people.

Seven per cent of Indigenous communities surveyed had no organised sewerage system. Overflows from sewerage systems in the 12 months prior to the survey occurred in nearly half of the communities with a population of 50 people or more.

Table 5.2 Indigenous population living in discrete communities by State, 1999

State or Territory	No. of discrete communities	Total population of discrete communities
NSW	60	7 771
Vic	2	279
Qld	142	30 961
WA	283	16 558
SA	96	5 226
Tas	1	57
NT	632	47 233
Total	1 216	108 085

Source: ABS, *Housing and Infrastructure in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities*, 2001, cat. No. 4710

94 per cent of the communities with a population of 50 or more had an organised rubbish collection service. The majority of these communities dispose of their rubbish either in an unfenced community tip or in a tip outside the community land.

58, or 5 per cent of the communities surveyed were located in towns that provided major services. The remainder predominantly used road as the usual means of transport although 11 per cent used air or sea. 168 communities had their road access cut at least once one day or more during the period of the survey.

Nearly two-thirds of discrete Indigenous communities with a usual population of 50 or more people had access to sporting facilities such as outdoors sports grounds or courts for games such as basketball or tennis in their community, with the larger communities most likely to have these facilities.

In January 2002 the Office of Evaluation and Audit within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission initiated an assessment of performance monitoring, measurement and evaluation of service delivery programmes to Indigenous peoples. A report on the assessment, titled *Outcome data measurement unfinished business; Evaluation of data for outcome measurement for selected Indigenous service delivery programs*, was published in July 2002.

The terms of reference for the assessment were to:

- identify the scope and nature of data on outcomes and programme performance to improve outcomes for Indigenous peoples
- report on the availability of the data and its potential use in evaluation, and programme and policy formulation and delivery
- present to the (ATSIC) Key Managers Conference in early 2002 information on progress, including data availability and its potential applications.

Data examined was limited to four service delivery programs: law and justice, health, education, and housing and infrastructure.

The assessment examined over 75 data sources. Of these only 22 were considered to be of adequate quality to use to measure programme outcomes for Indigenous people. The assessment found there continued to be a lack of reliable data suitable for monitoring and evaluating programmes but noted that the establishment of a statistics unit within the Commission might play a key role in meeting the data requirement and providing assistance to ATSIC programme managers in the development of appropriate performance indicators.

Commonwealth expenditure and progress

Financial assistance grants

In 2001–02, there were 99 Indigenous councils receiving financial assistance grants from the Commonwealth. Some of these councils are established under mainstream Local Government legislation of the State such as Aurukun and Mornington Shires in Queensland and Ngaanyatjaraku in Western Australia. Others are established under separate State legislation such as the Deed of Grant in Trust councils in Queensland. The final group is those bodies that have been 'declared' to be local governing bodies by the Federal Minister, on advice from the State Minister, so they can receive financial assistance grants. Table 5.3 shows the distribution of Indigenous councils by State and by the way in which they have become eligible for the financial assistance grants.

In 2001–02, the Commonwealth provided these Indigenous community councils with around \$19.4 million in financial assistance grants. Of this, \$12.5 million was in general purpose grants and \$6.9 million in local roads grants.

In addition to these grants to Indigenous Community councils, the Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission allocated \$1.5 million from the financial assistance grants local road component (about 2 per cent) for access roads serving remote Aboriginal communities.

In most States, the methodology used by Grants Commissions to determine the distribution of financial assistance grants to Indigenous councils is the same as that applied to the distribution of grants to other State and Territory councils, with disability factors applied to assist the achievement of equitable grant outcomes (see Chapter 2).

Local Government Incentive Programme

Funding was provided by the Commonwealth under the former Local Government Incentive Programme to the South Australian Office of Local Government and Local Government Association of South Australia for an elections and voting project. This partnership project, which began in March 2002, sought to produce materials to help councils foster interest in nominating for, and voting in, council elections (due in May 2003) among the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voting public. The project

Table 5.3 Distribution of Indigenous councils by eligibility type and by State, June 2002

State	Established under State Local Government legislation	Established under separate State legislation	Declared local governing bodies	Total Indigenous councils
NSW	0	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0	0
Qld	2	32	0	34
WA	1	0	0	1
SA	0	0	5	5
Tas	0	0	0	0
NT	30	0	29	59
Total	33	32	34	99

Source: Department of Transport and Regional Services unpublished data

was run in collaboration with the ATSIC State Policy Office, the State Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the State Electoral Office.

Local Government ministers' reconciliation action plans

On 3 November 2000, the Prime Minister, State Premiers and Territory Chief Ministers and the President of ALGA, through Council of Australian Government (COAG), agreed on a framework to advance reconciliation with Australia's Indigenous peoples. As part of this framework, COAG directed Ministerial Councils – including the Local Government Ministers' Council – to develop action plans, performance reporting strategies and benchmarks to advance reconciliation.

In agreeing to the framework, COAG identified three priority areas for action that reflect the priorities of Indigenous people:

- investing in community leadership
- reviewing and re-engineering programmes and services to ensure they deliver practical measures that support families, children and young people. In particular, governments agreed to look at measures for tackling family violence, drug and alcohol dependency and other symptoms of community dysfunction
- forging greater links between the business sector and Indigenous communities to help promote economic independence.

The framework includes a new approach for governments based on partnerships and shared responsibilities with Indigenous communities, and programme flexibility and coordination between government agencies, with a focus on local communities and outcomes.

In relation to developing an action plan for the Local Government Ministers' Council in response to the Council of Australian Governments directive, each jurisdiction was asked to participate in a working party to develop a draft working paper for consideration by the Local Government Ministers' Council. With Commonwealth funding, the Australian Local Government Association agreed to take a lead role by engaging a consultant to work with the working party.

The working party has representation from the Commonwealth, each of the States and the Australian Local Government Association and is being assisted by an officer from ATSIC. At the first meeting of the newly formed Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council, the Council is expected to consider the draft action plan prepared by the working party for Local Government Ministers.

The development of performance reporting strategies and benchmarks are key elements of the framework required by Council of Australian Governments. That is, measuring and comparing the progress to achieve particular reconciliation outcomes. This is also an area identified by the Commonwealth Grants Commission in their review of the financial assistance grants arrangements. The Commission, at p. 27 of the report, said that the Commonwealth together with the States and Indigenous organisations should work to develop measures of the performance of councils in providing services to Indigenous people¹. Once these have been developed, the Commonwealth Grants Commission recommended that they should be applied and the results published in the National Report.

1 Commonwealth Grants Commission 2001, Review of the operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

CHAPTER 6

DEVELOPING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE OPERATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*

In accordance with the legislative requirements specified in the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, a review of the operation of the Act had to be conducted by 30 June 2001. Conducted by the Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC), the final report of the review was released in July 2001. CGC review findings and implementation action required is at Appendix C.

In assessing the CGC report, the Minister decided that there are a number of other aspects of Local Government that need to be taken into account prior to further consideration of the report recommendations. Not least of these are the financial arrangements between all levels of government.

Inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting

In May 2002 the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government announced the establishment of an inquiry into cost shifting and Local Government by the House of

Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration, to be chaired by David Hawker MP.

The Committee is one of the senior Parliamentary Standing Committees and consists of 10 members: six government members and four non-government members.

The Inquiry addresses three of the Government's election commitments relating to Local Government:

- cost shifting – the Government undertook to review the incidence of cost shifting by State Governments on to Local Government
- review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* – the Government also committed to consulting with State Governments and Local Government Associations when considering the recommendations of the CGC's review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* prior to making any changes to the current arrangements
- constitutional recognition – the Government undertook to work with State and national Local Government Associations in raising the debate concerning constitutional recognition of Local Government.

In establishing the Inquiry, the Government has responded to the findings of the CGC's review in relation to State assistance. The CGC found that since the introduction of the untied financial assistance in 1974, Commonwealth grants assistance has grown by around 10.8 per cent a year on average, whereas the States' contributions have only grown around 6.6 per cent a year on average. It also found that State assistance to Local Government has declined in relative importance over this period (that is, from 15 per cent of Local Government revenue in 1974–75 to 7 per cent in 1997–98), whereas Commonwealth assistance had remained relatively constant (that is, from 10.5 per cent in 1974–75 to 12 per cent in 1997–98).

In addition to providing an opportunity to inquire into issues of cost shifting, the scope of the Inquiry also provides for the issues and

outcomes from the CGC review of the Act to be considered in conjunction with the views of State and Territory Governments. Further, it provides the opportunity to examine the financial position of Local Government (on the basis that the outcomes are budget-neutral for the Commonwealth) and the key challenges and issues facing Local Government in Australia.

As at the end of December 2002, the Inquiry had received in excess of 325 submissions from a diverse range of councils, regional organisations of councils, individuals, national and State organisations, with submissions from each State and Territory representing metropolitan, regional, rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

Witnesses at public hearings have stressed the difficulties experienced by Local Government caused by the instances of cost shifting, changing

The Inquiry terms of reference

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration is requested to inquire into, and report upon, cost shifting onto Local Government by State governments and the financial position of Local Government. This will include an examination of:

1. Local Government's current roles and responsibilities
2. current funding arrangements for Local Government, including allocation of funding from other levels of government and utilisation of alternative funding sources by Local Government
3. the capacity of Local Government to meet existing obligations and to take on an enhanced role in developing opportunities at a regional level including opportunities for councils to work with other councils and pool funding to achieve regional outcomes
4. Local Government expenditure and the impact on Local Government's financial capacity as a result of changes in the powers, functions and responsibilities between State and Local governments
5. the scope for achieving a rationalisation of roles and responsibilities between the levels of government, better use of resources and better quality services to local communities
6. the findings of the Commonwealth Grants Commission Review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* of June 2001, taking into account the views of interested parties as sought by the Committee.

The inquiry is to be conducted on the basis that the outcomes will be budget-neutral for the Commonwealth.

community expectations, greater administrative and compliance impositions, lack of consultation and impediments to revenue-raising.

The Inquiry will continue to collect additional evidence both through public hearings and submissions with a view to providing a final report to the federal parliament in the later part of 2003.

The website for the House Economics Committee

The Inquiry's website

www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/efpa/localgovt

provides access to a comprehensive range of information specific to the Inquiry including:

- the terms of reference
- submissions received
- schedule of public hearings
- transcripts of public hearings
- media releases

DOTARS submission to the inquiry

The Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS) provided a submission to the Inquiry. Below are some of the points made by the Department against the terms of reference:

The departmental submission noted considerable strengths in Local Government:

- Local Government offers a wide and well-established national network of public administration and in some cases, Local Government is the only institutional presence in small, rural and remote communities.
- Local Governments are directly accountable and have strong, long-term links to their local communities.

- A close community relationship and sense of ownership by local communities has developed through Local Government delivery of core community services – such as the coordination of emergency services, library services and post-natal health services – as well as important infrastructure development and maintenance.
- Local Government's legislative basis makes it both durable and financially stable, unlike some community and interest groups.
- Local Government has a practical service orientation and good links with local business and industry.
- Local Government is often best placed to deliver many services and respond to locally identified and regional issues.

Local Government's current roles and responsibilities

There is clear evidence that the role of Local Government has expanded and changed significantly over the past few decades and it continues to change and respond to community expectations and aspirations. Local Government is shifting its focus from 'hard' infrastructure provision to a greater relative importance on spending on social services such as health, welfare, safety and community amenities.

Local Government needs to be sufficiently flexible to meet the needs of communities in the future. However, demands on Local Government to deliver an expanded range of social services vary across Australia and councils' capacity to deliver is dependent on a range of local factors such as their revenue base, the community's capacity to pay and the capacity of the council to deliver quality services.

In responding to the enormous pressures on Local Government, flexibility and reform are essential, as is adequate sources of revenue.

Current funding arrangements

There have been significant changes to Local Government's funding mix since the Commonwealth first started providing funding in the 1970s. The share of revenue coming from State Governments has declined and use by Local Government of alternative funding sources is at an early stage. This, combined with the limitations many councils face in increasing their own-source revenue, has placed an increasing focus on revenue from the Commonwealth to support Local Government activities.

Local Government's capacity to meet existing obligations and develop opportunities at a regional level

Capacity is a complex issue involving a number of different factors (such as size, resource, human resources and skills) and the capacity to undertake more functions will vary between councils. However, a number of studies suggest that Local Government's capacity to fund and manage essential infrastructure is an ongoing area of concern (see Chapter 4 on Infrastructure).

Local Government is already involved in developing opportunities at a regional level, not only in terms of regional development generally but also in planning and providing regional roads.

The evolving role of Local Government in economic development facilitation

The Commonwealth has commissioned a research and consultation-based study to review the changing role and approaches of Local Government to economic development facilitation in Australia.

The study is in response to recent policy and structural influences, which have seen a marked increase in the responsibility of Local Government for economic development over the past 10 years.

It is expected that the study will provide the Commonwealth with a better understanding of Local Government's capacity to address regional economic development issues, and of existing approaches by Local Government to managing its economic development roles and functions.

Local government expenditure and cost shifting

One of the fundamental difficulties with defining and measuring cost shifting is that in order to show that cost shifting is occurring, it is necessary to decide which government is actually responsible for providing the service in question. However cost shifting does occur when a State Government fails to ensure there are sufficient funds or increased access to revenue to cover the imposition of functions and/or costs onto Local Government for which the State Government is normally regarded as responsible.

The CGC review noted that the financial pressures being faced by Local Government are not due to a single influence, and it is therefore unlikely that a single response is appropriate. It noted that the diversity of councils further

complicates the issue of cost shifting, particularly as not every council has the same capacity to raise revenue. Further, devolving functions to councils that are already highly dependent on grants can impose particular difficulties.

Scope for rationalisation of Local Government in Australia

There is always scope to rationalise roles and responsibilities between the levels of government – but there will always be some complexity around defining roles. A cooperative approach between all levels of government will enhance the prospect of successful outcomes.

Structural reform of Local Government can also be an important way forward to ensure that Local Government continues to make better use of resources in order to deliver better quality services to local communities. Reform can in some cases be achieved by Local Government alone, in further developing the role of regional organisations of councils for example; in other areas, the Commonwealth and State participation will be required.

The future

Given the scope of the Inquiry, there is potential for the House of Representative Committee's report to provide a comprehensive national picture of the operation of Local Government and the issues and challenges all spheres of government face in relation to ensuring a contemporary and responsive policy and financial framework for Local Government.

APPENDIX A

NATIONAL PRINCIPLES FOR
ALLOCATING GENERAL PURPOSE
AND LOCAL ROAD GRANTS

According to section 3 of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, the Federal Parliament provides financial assistance grants to the States for the purpose of improving:

- the financial capacity of local governing bodies
- the capacity of local governing bodies to provide their residents with an equitable level of services
- the certainty of funding for local governing bodies
- the efficiency and effectiveness of local governing bodies
- the provision, by local governing bodies, of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

These financial assistance grants are provided to the States for Local Government purposes in the form of general purpose and local roads grants. The States distribute these funds to local governing bodies in accordance with recommendations of Local Government grants commissions but only after the Federal Minister has approved them. In determining grant allocations, grants commissions are required to make their recommendations in line with national principles. The current national principles are set out in figure A.1.

The main objective of having national principles is to establish a nationally consistent basis for distributing financial assistance grants to Local Government under the Act. The Act includes a requirement under subsection 6(1) for the Federal Minister responsible for Local Government to formulate the national principles after consulting with States and Local Government.

The formulated national principles are a disallowable instrument. As such, any amendments, including the establishment of new principles, must be tabled in both Houses of Federal Parliament before they can come into effect. Members and Senators then have 15 sitting days in which to lodge a disallowance motion. If such a motion is lodged, the respective House has 15 sitting days in which to put and defeat the motion, otherwise the amendment will be deemed to be disallowed.

The genesis of the 1995 Act was the 1993 Local Government Ministers' Conference at which Ministers agreed to a review of processes associated with payments made to Local Government under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986*. Two studies, commissioned as part of the review, examined Local Government finances and the

methodologies used by the grants commissions to distribute the grants (Macklin 1994, Morton 1994). These studies found that the seven different models operating were of little relevance in ensuring equity in grant distribution or allowing for monitoring of outcomes. This finding led to the drafting of the current 1995 Act and inclusion of the requirement for the national principles and the national report.

The current national principles were formulated following extensive consultations with State Local Government Ministers and Local Government Association representatives. The principles were

formally agreed to at the April 1995 Local Government Ministers' Conference and came into effect in October 1995.

These national principles were intended to reflect existing and well established distribution practices of the Commonwealth Grants Commission and most State Local Government grants commissions. It was also intended that the application of common principles would ensure, subject to the particular methodologies of the State grants commissions, that similar local governing bodies receive similar grants, at least in relative terms.

Figure A.1 National principles for allocating general purpose and local road grants

A. General purpose grants

The national principles relating to allocation of general purpose grants payable under section 9 of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (the Act) among local governing bodies are as follows:

1. Horizontal equalisation

General purpose grants will be allocated to local governing bodies, as far as practicable, on a full horizontal equalisation basis as defined by the Act. This is a basis that ensures that each local governing body in the State/Territory is able to function, by reasonable effort, at a standard not lower than the average standard of other local governing bodies in the State/Territory. It takes account of differences in the expenditure required by those local governing bodies in the performance of their functions and in the capacity of those local governing bodies to raise revenue.¹

2. Effort neutrality

An effort or policy neutral approach will be used in assessing the expenditure requirements and revenue-raising capacity of each local governing body. This means as far as practicable, that policies of individual local governing bodies in terms of expenditure and revenue effort will not affect grant determination.

3. Minimum grant

The minimum general purpose grant allocation for a local governing body in a year will be not less than the amount to which the local governing body would be entitled if 30 per cent of the total amount of general purpose grants to which the State/Territory is entitled under section 9 of the Act in respect of the year were allocated among local governing bodies in the State/Territory on a per capita basis.¹

4. Other grant support

Other relevant grant support provided to local governing bodies to meet any of the expenditure needs assessed should be taken into account using an inclusion approach.²

5. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Financial assistance shall be allocated to councils in a way that recognises the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within their boundaries.³

B. Identified local roads grants

The national principle relating to the allocation of the amounts payable under section 12 of the Act (the identified road component of the financial assistance grants) among local governing bodies is as follows:

1. Identified road component

The identified road component of the financial assistance grants should be allocated to local governing bodies as far as practicable on the basis of the relative needs of each local governing body for roads expenditure and to preserve its road assets. In assessing road needs, relevant considerations include length, type and usage of roads in each local governing area.

Notes:

1. Principles A1 and A3 reiterate principles that exist within the current legislation. Their inclusion in the national principles contributes to the balance and completeness of the national principles and allows for clarification of their definitions. The effect of Principle A3 is to provide each local governing body with a guaranteed minimum grant.
2. This principle requires recognition and application of certain relevant grants from other sources against council expenditure needs. The issue here is to account for revenue from other sources provided for the purpose of delivering certain Local Government services.
3. This principle addresses the specific need for the provision of equitable council services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and indicates that the level of grants received by councils reflects the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population within council boundaries.

APPENDIX B

STATE METHODS FOR DISTRIBUTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS 2001–02

The methods each State Local Government grants commission employed for allocating grants to councils in 2001–02 are provided under the following sections:

- New South Wales
- Victoria
- Queensland
- Western Australia
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Northern Territory

Descriptions of methods are based on information supplied by Local Government grants commissions.

The Australian Capital Territory requires no distribution of grant because the Territory Government directly exercises Local Government functions.

New South Wales

The New South Wales Grants Commission methodology has not changed significantly since last year. The two components of the grants are distributed on the basis of principles developed in consultation with Local Government and

consistent with the national principles of the *Financial Assistance (Local Government) Act 1995*.

General purpose component

The general purpose component of the grant attempts to equalise the financial capacity of councils. The Commission uses the direct assessment method. The approach taken considers cost disabilities in the provision of services on the one hand (expenditure allowances) and a theoretical assessment of revenue-raising capacity on the other (revenue allowances).

Expenditure allowances are calculated for each council for a selected range of council functions. They attempt to compensate councils for expected above-average costs because of factors beyond their control. Council policy decisions concerning the level of service provided, or if there is a service provided at all, are not considered (effort-neutral).

Expenditure allowances are calculated for 21 functions or areas of expenditure. These functions are: general administrative services, aerodromes, services for aged and disabled, building control, public cemeteries, services for children, general community services, cultural amenities, control of dogs and other animals,

fire control and emergency services, general health services, library services, noxious plants and pest control, town planning control, recreational services, stormwater drainage and flood mitigation, street and gutter cleaning, street lighting, and maintenance of urban local roads, sealed rural local roads, and unsealed rural local roads.

An additional allowance is calculated for councils outside the Sydney statistical district that recognises their isolation.

The general formula for the calculation of expenditure allowances is:

No. of units × standard cost × disability factor

where:

The no. of units is the measure of use of the function for the council. For most functions the number of units is the population. For others it may be the number of properties or the length of roads.

The standard cost represents the State average cost for each of the 21 selected council functions. The calculation is based on a State average of each council's unit cost, excluding extreme values, using selected items from Special Schedule 1 of councils' 1999–2000 Statements of Accounts.

The disability factor is the extent to which it is estimated to cost the council more than the standard to provide the service.

A disability factor is the Commission's estimate of the additional cost, expressed as a percentage, of providing a standard service due to inherent characteristics that are beyond a council's control. For example, if it is estimated that it would cost a council 10 per cent more than the standard, for town planning, because of population growth in the area, then the disability factor would be 10 per cent. Consistent with the effort-neutral principle, the Commission does not compensate councils for cost differences that arise due to

policy decisions of council, management performance or accounting differences.

For each function the Commission has identified a number of variables that are considered to be the most significant in influencing a council's expenditure on that particular function. These variables are termed 'disabilities'. A council may have a disability due to inherent factors such as topography, climate, traffic, duplication of services etc. In addition to disabilities identified by the Commission, 'other' disabilities relating to individual councils may be determined from council visits or submissions.

The general approach for calculating a disability factor is to take each disability relating to a function and apply the following formula:

Disability factor = (council measure ÷ standard measure – 1) × 100 × weighting

where:

The *council measure* is the individual council's measure for the disability being assessed (for example, population growth).

The *standard measure* is the State standard (generally the average) measure for the disability being assessed.

The *weighting* is meant to reflect the significance of the measure in terms of the expected additional cost. The weightings have generally been determined by establishing a factor for the maximum disability based on a sample of councils or through discussion with appropriate organisations.

Generally, negative scores are not calculated, that is, if the council score is less than the standard, a factor of zero is substituted. The factors calculated for each disability are then added together to give a total disability factor for the function.

The Commission uses the inclusion approach in the treatment of specific purpose grants. This means that the disability allowance is discounted by the specific-purpose grant as a proportion of the standardised expenditure.

For the functions of services for aged and disabled, and services for children, the deduction approach is used. This method deducts specific-purpose grant amounts from all councils' expenditure before standard costs are calculated. This approach is considered more appropriate for functions where the level of specific-purpose payment assistance is related to council effort. The deduction approach is, therefore, more consistent with the 'effort-neutral' requirement specified in the principles. A deduction approach is used for street lighting because of differences in accounting practice between councils and county councils in various parts of the State.

As indicated previously, the Commission also calculates an allowance for additional costs associated with isolation. The **isolation allowance** is calculated using a regression analysis model based on the additional costs of isolation and distances from capital cities. Details of the formula are shown later in this section. An additional component to the isolation allowance is included which specifically recognises the additional industrial relations obligations of councils in western NSW.

A **pensioner rebate allowance** is calculated which recognises that a council's share of pensioner rebates is an additional cost. Councils with high proportions of eligible pensioner rebates are, therefore, more disadvantaged than those with a lower proportion. Details of the formula used are shown later in this section.

The calculation of **revenue allowances** is a broad-brush attempt to compensate councils for their relative lack of revenue-raising capacity. Property values are the basis for assessing revenue-raising capacity because rates, based on property values, are the principal source of councils' income and property values, to some extent, are an indicator of the relative economic wealth of local areas.

In the Commission's methodology, the calculation of revenue allowances involves determining each

council's theoretical revenue-raising capacity by comparing land values per property to a State standard and applying a State standard rate-in-the-dollar.

To reduce seasonal and market fluctuations in the property market, the valuations are averaged over three years. In the revenue allowance calculation, councils with low values per property are assessed as being disadvantaged and are brought up to the average (positive allowances), while councils with high values per property are assessed as being advantaged and are brought down to the average (negative allowances). That is, the theoretical revenue capacity of each council is equalised against the State standard. The Commission's approach excludes the rating policies of individual councils (effort-neutral).

Separate calculations are made for urban and non-urban properties. Non-rateable properties are excluded from the Commission's calculations. This is because the calculations deal with relativities between councils, based on the theoretical revenue-raising capacity of each rateable property.

In developing the methodology for the 1986 legislation the Commission was concerned that use of natural weighting would exaggerate the redistributive effect of the average revenue standards. That is, the revenue allowances are substantially more significant than the expenditure allowances. This issue was discussed with the Commonwealth and the approved principles provide that 'revenue allowances may be discounted to achieve equilibrium with the expenditure allowances'. As a result both allowances are given equal weight. This approach has continued under the provisions of the 1995 legislation.

The discounting helps to overcome the distortion caused to the revenue calculations as a result of the property values in the Sydney metropolitan area.

The objective approach to discounting revenue allowances reduces the extreme positives and negatives calculated, yet maintains the relativities between councils established in the initial calculation.

Rate pegging, which applies in NSW, is not specifically considered by the Commission. The calculations are essentially dealing with relativities between councils, and rate pegging affects all councils.

Generally, movements in the grants are caused by annual variations in property valuations, standard costs, road and bridge length, disability measures and population.

The Commission, because of the practical and theoretical problems involved, does not consider the requirements of councils for capital expenditure. In order to assess capital expenditure requirements the Commission would have to undertake a survey of the infrastructure needs of each council and then assess the individual projects for which capital assistance is sought. This would undermine council autonomy, because the Commission, rather than the council, would determine which projects were worthwhile. Further, councils that had failed to adequately maintain their assets could be rewarded at the expense of those that did maintain them.

The issue of funding for local water and sewerage undertakings was examined during the process of consultation between the Commission, the Local Government and Shires Associations, and Local Government generally. The consultation process preceded the development of the distribution principles required under the 1986 Commonwealth legislation.

The Associations and Local Government recommended to the Commission that water and sewerage functions should not be included in the financial assistance grants distribution principles. The main reasons given were:

- Water and sewerage services are not functions performed by all general purpose councils in NSW.
- If water and sewerage functions were to be considered the level of funds available for other council functions would be significantly diminished.
- Including water and sewerage services would result in a reduced and distorted distribution of funds to general purpose councils.
- Other sources of funds and subsidies are available to councils by the State government for water and sewerage schemes.

The Commission agreed with the submissions of the Associations and Local Government. Accordingly, water and sewerage functions are excluded from the distribution formula.

The Commission views income from council business activities as a policy decision and, therefore, does not consider it in the grant calculations (effort neutral). Similarly, losses are not considered either.

Debt servicing is related to council policy and is therefore excluded from the Commission's calculations. In the same way, the consequences of poor council decisions of the past are not considered.

The grants are generally not affected by the levels of a council's expenditure on a particular function. The use of a council's expenditure is generally limited to determining a State standard cost for each selected function. The standard costs for these functions are then applied to all councils in calculating their grants. What an individual council may actually spend on a function has very little bearing on the standard cost or its grant.

Efficient councils are rewarded by the effort-neutral approach of the calculations. To illustrate this, two councils with similar populations, road networks, property values, and disability measures would receive similar grants. The efficient council

can use its grant funds to provide better facilities for its ratepayers. The inefficient council needs to use its grant funds to support an inefficient operation and cannot provide additional services to its ratepayers. Therefore, the efficient council will benefit from its efficiency.

Council categories have no bearing on the grants. Categories simply provide a convenient method of grouping councils for analysis purposes.

Local roads component

The method of allocation of the local roads component is based on a simple formula developed by the New South Wales Roads and Traffic Authority. The formula uses councils' proportion of the State's population, local road length and bridge length. Refer to the 'principles' elsewhere in this report for details.

Summary of formulae used in the calculation of expenditure and revenue allowances of the general purpose component

Expenditure allowances

General

Allowances for the majority of functions are calculated on the following general formula:

$$Ac = Nc \times Es \times Dc$$

where: **Ac** = allowance for the council for the expenditure function

Nc = number of units to be serviced by council

Es = standard expenditure per unit for the function

Dc = disability for the council for function in percentage terms

Road length allowances

In addition to the disability allowances, length allowances are calculated for each road type based on the following formula:

$$Ac = Nc \times Es \times \frac{Lc}{Nc} - \frac{Ls}{Ns}$$

where: **Ac** = allowance for road length allowance

Nc = number of relevant properties for the council

Es = standard cost per kilometre

Lc = council's relevant length of road per relevant property.

Ls = standard relevant length of road per relevant property.

Isolation allowances

Isolation allowances are calculated for all non-metropolitan councils based on the following formula:

$$Ac = Pc \times ([Dsc \times K1] + [Dnc \times K2] + Ic)$$

where: **Ac** = the isolation allowance for each council

Pc = the adjusted population for each council

Dsc = the distance from each council's administrative centre to Sydney

Dnc = the distance from each council's administrative centre to the nearest major regional centre (a population centre of more than 20 000)

Ic = the additional per capita allowance due to industrial award obligations (if applicable)

K1 and **K2** are constants derived from regression analysis

Specific-purpose payments

Allowances for functions are discounted where appropriate to recognise the contribution of specific-purpose grants. The discount factor that generally applies is:

$$1 - \frac{Gc}{(Nc \times Es) + Ac}$$

where: **Gc** = the specific purpose grant received by the council for the expenditure function

Nc = number of units to be serviced by council

Es = standard expenditure per unit for the function

Ac = allowance for the council for the expenditure function

Revenue allowances

General

The general formula for the calculation of revenue allowances is:

$$Ac = Nc \times ts \times (Ts - Tc)$$

where: **Ac** = revenue allowance for the council

Nc = number of properties (assessments)

ts = standard tax rate (rate-in-the-dollar)

Ts = standard value per property

Tc = council's value per property.

The standard value per property (**Ts**) is calculated as follows:

$$Ts = \frac{\text{Sum of rateable values for all councils}}{\text{Sum of number of properties for all councils}}$$

The standard tax rate (**ts**) is calculated as follows:

$$ts = \frac{\text{Sum of net rates levied for all councils}}{\text{Sum of rateable values for all councils}}$$

Pensioner rebates allowances

The general formula for the allowance to recognise the differential impact of compulsory pensioner rates rebates is:

$$Ac = Rc \times Nc \times (Pc - Ps)$$

where: **Ac** = the allowance for the council

Rc = the standardised rebate per property for the council

Nc = the number of residential properties

Pc = the proportion of eligible pensioner assessments for the council

Ps = the proportion of eligible pensioner assessments for all councils

The standardised rebate for the council (**Rc**) is:

$$Rc = 0.25 \times Tc \times ts$$

where: **Tc** = the average value per residential property in the council

ts = the standard tax rate (rate-in-the-dollar) for residential properties

The maximum value for **Rc** is set at \$125.

NB: **Tc** and **ts** are calculated as for the revenue allowances except only residential properties are used.

Principles

General purpose (equalisation) component

These principles, consistent with the national principles of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, are based on an extensive programme of consultation with Local Government prior to the implementation of the 1986 legislation.

The agreed principles are:

1. General purpose grants to local governing bodies will be allocated as far as practicable on a full equalisation basis as defined in the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*; that is, a basis which attempts to compensate local governing bodies for differences in expenditure required in the performance of their functions and in their capacity to raise revenue.
2. The assessment of revenue and expenditure allowances of local governing bodies will, as far as is practicable, be independent of the policy or practices of those bodies in raising revenue and the provision of services.
3. Revenue-raising capacity will primarily be determined on the basis of property values; positive and negative allowances relative to average standards may be calculated.
4. Revenue allowances may be discounted to achieve equilibrium with expenditure allowances.
5. Generally, for each expenditure function an allowance will be determined using recurrent cost; both positive and negative allowances relative to average standards may be calculated.
6. Expenditure allowances will be discounted to take account of specific purpose grants.
7. Additional costs associated with non-resident use of services and facilities will be recognised in determining expenditure allowances.
8. In the event of council amalgamations, the new council will receive grants for two years as if the councils had remained separate entities and any subsequent change may be phased in at the discretion of the Commission.

Local roads component

Financial assistance which is made available as an identified local roads component of Local Government Financial Assistance shall be allocated so as to provide Aboriginal communities

equitable treatment in regard to their access and internal local roads needs.

1. Urban [metropolitan] area

'Urban area' means an area designated as an 'urban area':

- (a) the Sydney Statistical Division
- (b) the Newcastle Statistical District
- (c) the Wollongong Statistical District

2. Rural [non-metropolitan] area

'Rural area' means an area not designated as an 'urban area'

3. Initial distribution

27.54 per cent to local roads in urban areas

72.46 per cent to local roads in rural areas

4. Local roads grant in urban areas

Funds will be allocated:

- (a) 5 per cent distributed to individual councils on the basis of bridge length
- (b) 95 per cent distributed to councils on the basis of:
 - (i) 60 per cent distributed on length of roads
 - (ii) 40 per cent distributed on population

5. Local roads grant in rural areas

Funds will be allocated:

- (a) 7 per cent distributed to individual councils on the basis of bridge length
- (b) 93 per cent distributed to councils on the basis of:
 - (i) 80 per cent distributed on length of roads
 - (ii) 20 per cent distributed on population

6. Population shall be based on the most up-to-date Estimated Resident Population figures available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Road length shall be based on the most up-to-date data available to the Local

Government Grants Commission of NSW for formed roads, which are councils' financial responsibility.

Bridge length shall be based on the most up-to-date data available to the Local Government Grants Commission of NSW for major bridges and culverts six metres and over in length, measured along the centre line of the carriageway, which are councils' financial responsibility.

The method of application of the statistics shall be agreed to between representatives of the Local Government Grants Commission of NSW and the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW.

Victoria

The Victoria Grants Commission allocates general purpose and local road grants according to the relevant national principles.

Methodology for general purpose grants

At the time the 2001–02 general purpose grants were allocated, the Victoria Grants Commission had completed its major review of the general purpose grants methodology (the final report being released in May 2001) and was in the process of implementing its findings, with the intention of using the new model to allocate the 2002–03 general purpose grants. Because of the pending introduction of the revised methodology, there were only minor changes to the methodology used to calculate the 2001–02 general purpose grants.

The requirement to comply with the national principles applies regardless of any changes to the methodology used to calculate the general purpose grants. Consequently, to be consistent with the requirement of allocating the grants to councils on the basis of horizontal fiscal equalisation, the Commission sought to equalise the capacity of each Victorian council to provide an average range of services at a standard level.

A council's grant is defined as the 'raw grant', which is the difference between its standardised expenditure and the standardised revenue. Usually, a council's standardised expenditure exceeds its standardised revenue. The 'raw grant' represents the gap between the two amounts and is expressed mathematically as follows:

$$G = E - R$$

where: **G** is the 'raw grant' for any council

E is the standardised expenditure for the council

R is the standardised revenue for the council

Standardised expenditure (E)

Standardised expenditure is calculated for each Victorian council on the basis of 20 specified expenditure functions: public safety, law and order, family services, health and welfare, aged services, community services, heritage, culture and recreation, local sealed roads, local formed and surfaced roads, local natural surfaced roads, footpaths, kerbs and channels, traffic management, aerodromes, street beautification, sanitation, street cleaning, environment protection and drainage.

For any particular function, the standardised expenditure (**E**) is calculated as the product of its units of need (**u**), the standard cost per unit of need (**c**), a discount factor (**d**) and its disability factor (**D**). The following formula displays this mathematically:

$$E = u \times c \times d \times D$$

This formula is applied to each of the core set of functions commonly carried out by councils. The derived standardised expenditure for a council on the set of core functions comprises the summation of all the products of the above calculation.

Units of need (u)

Units of need are the prime users or drivers of the service and are also known as major cost drivers. Examples of these are population and number of households serviced.

Standard cost per unit of need (c)

A standard unit cost for each function is the average cost of providing that function in Victoria.

Standard cost (u x c)

The standard cost for any council is the product of the standard unit cost (the same for all councils) and the number of units of need for that council.

Discount factor (d)

A discount factor is included in the formula to discount the total expenditure on a function by the revenue received from grants and certain other sources.

Disability factors (D)

The Commission may assign a disability factor for each function for each council, to compensate the council for factors beyond its control, such as age of infrastructure, socioeconomic profile, population density or isolation.

Further discussion of the calculation of the disability factors occurs in a later section.

Standardised revenue (R)

The standardised revenue for each council is calculated by multiplying its total net annual value (at a common valuation date) by the average (or implied) rate for all Victorian councils. In 2001–02, the implied rate was 7.1 cents, slightly reduced from the previous year’s figure of 7.5 cents.

Mathematically, the standardised revenue (R) for each council can be expressed as follows:

$$R = V \times r$$

where: V is the valuation base for the council averaged over three years

r is the standard rate for all councils calculated as a three-year average

Minimum grants

The national principles require each council to receive a minimum per capita amount (also termed an ‘as-of-right grant’) regardless of assessed need. In other words, where a council’s standardised expenditure exceeds standardised revenue by only a small amount, or is less than its standardised revenue, it still receives a minimum grant. In 2001–02, a minimum grant of \$14.90 per head was received by eight councils, plus the Docklands Authority.

Calculation of disability factors

As mentioned earlier there were no major changes to the methodology used to calculate the 2001–02 grants, pending the implementation of a revised methodology in 2002. However, the disability factor for tourism was broadened to include people staying in caravan parks and camping grounds, as well as hotels, motels and guest houses, using additional information published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Movements in grants

Because the 2001–02 grant outcomes for a number of councils varied significantly from the 2000–01 grants, caps were applied to the highest and lowest grants as a means of minimising these variations and introducing some stability in the grant outcomes. A major contributing factor to these variations was the robust increases in valuations in a number of localities (especially the middle-ring metropolitan councils and some regional centres).

The Commission applied an upper limit cap of 25 per cent (as opposed to 20 per cent in 2000–01) to grant increases, which affected both Mornington Peninsula and Cardinia Shire

Councils. A minimum cap or floor of –6 per cent (same as for 2000–01 general purpose grants) affected eight councils.

To take account of the relatively greater reliance that smaller councils place on grant revenue and the need to provide such councils with financial stability, for the third successive year the Commission applied a more generous minimum cap to councils with a population of less than 15 000 as follows:

- For those councils with a population of up to 10 000, the general purpose grant for 2001–02 was no less than the previous year's grant (three councils were affected).
- For councils with a population of between 10 000 and 15 000, any reduction was limited to 2 per cent (two councils were affected).

Natural disaster assistance

The Commission allocates funding from the general purpose grants pool to councils which have incurred expenditure attributable to restoration work arising from natural disasters, on the condition that they submit approved natural disaster documentation from the Department of Treasury and Finance and/or VicRoads to the Commission.

Councils are not eligible for natural disaster relief unless they have contributed a minimum of \$10 000 to the repairs/restoration work, and relief is capped at \$35 000 per natural disaster for each council in any one year. In 2001–02 only one grant of \$35 000 was allocated to Central Goldfields Shire Council to assist with restoration work relating to flood damage.

Proposed changes to general purpose grants methodology

As mentioned earlier, the review of the Commission's general purpose grants methodology was completed during the year. The final report outlining the findings of the

review and the results of the consultation with interested parties was released in May 2001 and distributed to all Victorian councils.

The Commission implemented most of the recommendations in its allocation of the general purpose grants for 2002–03 in early 2002.

In the calculation of the 2002–03 general purpose grants a number of changes were made to the model:

- All recurrent expenditure (with the exception of works undertaken for VicRoads) was taken into account in the model.
- The number of expenditure functions assessed was decreased from 20 to nine.
- A revised set of cost adjusters was adopted, replacing the former disability factors, to better reflect the relative needs of councils.
- A move was made away from the use of individual council discount factors in order to take account of other grant support.

A more detailed discussion of the changes incorporated in the new methodology for the calculation of the 2002–03 general purpose grants will appear in the next Local Government National Report.

Local roads funding

Introduction of new model

Indicative estimates of each council's local roads grant for each of the 3 years between 2001–02 and 2003–04, based on a new methodology, were released to all councils by the Commission on 23 April 2001. The introduction of the new model is being implemented over a three-year period, in order to smooth the variations between the grant outcomes under the new model and the previous outcomes under the old model. The first instalment of the new local roads grants was paid to councils on 15 August 2001.

The advantages of the new formula are that it better reflects the relative needs of councils

in relation to local roads funding and more closely addresses the national principle pertaining to the distribution of local roads funds than the previous methodology.

The new model has produced a significant increase in local roads grants to most regional and rural councils and a general decline in grant levels to the inner and middle-ring metropolitan councils and several of the major regional centres. The predominant factor influencing this trend is the removal of the artificial constraint in the former model that arbitrarily provided set shares of the available funding to categories of urban and regional councils.

Data sources

As explained in the *Review of Distribution Arrangements for Local Roads Funding in Victoria: Final Report*, the data inputs for the new model are the average annual preservation costs and road lengths by traffic volume categories and a series of cost modifiers relating to freight loading, climate, materials availability, reactivity of the subgrade and strategic routes.

The new model also takes account of the deck area of bridges on local roads.

Road length and traffic volume data, as well as information relating to strategic routes, are sourced directly from councils. All other data are sourced externally.

The average annual preservation costs for each traffic volume range are used in the allocation model to reflect local road maintenance and renewal costs. The initial cost of construction (which is relatively higher for kerbed roads) is excluded as the model attempts to reflect the cost of maintaining existing local roads assets, as opposed to new ones. The average annual preservation costs used in the allocation of local roads grants for 2001–02 were developed by ARRB Transport Research and were published in Table 7.1 of the Review, which was released in July 1999.

Grant calculation

The formula used to calculate each council's local roads grant derives a 'local road network cost' for each council by multiplying a council's length of road for each traffic volume category by the average asset preservation cost for that category and by an overall factor reflecting the product of the value of each cost factor for each cost modifier. Relatively high cost modifiers add to the network cost calculated for each council and consequently increase its local road grant. Bridge costs are also included in the model at a standard rate of \$10 per square metre of timber deck area and \$5 per square metre of concrete deck area.

Mathematically, the calculation of the network cost for a single traffic volume range can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{Length of local roads in category} \\
 \times \\
 \text{Average annual asset preservation} \\
 \text{cost for category} \\
 \times \\
 \text{Overall cost factor*} \\
 \text{Network cost +} \\
 \text{Bridge costs} \\
 \hline
 \text{Total network cost}
 \end{array}$$

* Overall cost factor is calculated by multiplying the individual cost factors for freight loading, climate, materials availability, reactive sub-grades and strategic routes.

The actual local roads grants are then calculated by applying the available funds in proportion to each council's calculated total network cost.

Cost modifiers

As mentioned earlier, the new model uses a series of five cost modifiers to take account of differences in conditions between councils. The data sources for these are described below.

Freight loading

The cost modifier pertaining to freight loading represents a measure of the relative intensity of freight use of local road systems in various municipalities. Its calculation includes measures of freight generation and attraction sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics survey of motor vehicle usage, estimations of trip length on local roads in each municipality based on earlier studies and length of local roads.

Climate

Because particular climatic conditions have an adverse effect on road durability and hence increase the annual average preservation costs, a separate cost modifier for climate was included in the model. The primary effect of climate for lightly constructed pavements is through its influence on soil-bearing capacity, an influence that has been shown by studies to be correlated with the Thornthwaite Moisture Index (TMI). This index takes account of the effects of rainfall and evaporation. Whilst the index was originally developed for agricultural purposes, the consultants who conducted the review into the local roads grants methodology thought it to be the best available source of information reflecting the broad influence of climate on local road costs.

Materials availability

Another cost modifier used in the model relates to the local availability of good quality pavement materials. The source of this information was a VicRoads Pavement Material Inventory map showing the locations of the operating hard rock quarries in Victoria as at November 1999.

Reactive subgrade

According to the final report on the review of the local roads grants methodology, the performance life of pavement is affected by seasonal swelling and shrinkage of the sub-grade, an effect which is essentially accelerated environmental deterioration. These conditions mainly affect

parts of the western suburbs of Melbourne and western Victoria. Using soil classification maps provided by VicRoads showing expansive soils in Victoria, the area proportions of each municipality with expansive clay subgrades were estimated for use in the model.

Strategic routes

The strategic route cost modifier recognises that certain local roads need to be maintained at a higher standard than would normally be the case because of certain characteristics or functions they perform. For all road categories, local roads that are tram or bus routes, including school bus routes, are considered to be strategic routes. Also, unkerbed local roads that carry less than 100 vehicles a day, but carry at least 10 trucks, or carry less than 100 but more than 50 vehicles per day and are in steep terrain or irrigated areas, are considered strategic routes requiring higher levels of expenditure.

It is intended to review these cost modifiers periodically.

Transition process

As the implementation of the new methodology has resulted in significant changes in the level of local roads funding for a number of Victorian councils, the Commission recommended the adoption of a three-year transition period to phase in the new grant outcomes. The local roads grant for each council for 2001–02 was the council's grant for 2000–01 plus one-third of the difference between the council's actual allocation for 2000–01 based on the Commission's previous formula and a grant outcome based totally on the new formula. The new formula will be applied fully in 2003–04.

Queensland

Methods

Fiscal equalisation component

The principles of fiscal equalisation attempt to provide the resources necessary to enable councils to supply services to an average standard while facing a diverse range of geographic, social and economic circumstances. The relative dependency of councils on the financial assistance varies considerably and this provides the basis for the allocation.

The Queensland Local Government Grants Commission uses a balanced budget approach.

The Commission takes into account the expenditure needs and the revenue-raising capacity of councils. It therefore determines a notional budget for each Local Government in Queensland. The notional budget is calculated by assessing the expenditure need and revenue capacity based on a State average for Local Government activities.

Once a notional budget has been determined for each council, a grant is calculated which ensures each council has an equal ability to fund its assessed expenditure need. This is presented in the equations below with *k* representing the scaling factor, *G* the grant, *R* the revenue capacity, *E* the expenditure need and *I* other grants treated as revenue.

$$G = kE - (R + I)$$

$$I + R + G = kE$$

where: *k* = scaling factor

G = the grant

R = revenue capacity

E = expenditure need

I = other grants treated as revenue

The formula ensures that the calculated grant *G* plus the assessed revenue *R* and other grants treated as revenue *I* would fund the same proportion *k* of expenditure needs *E* across all councils.

Expenditure need is calculated as the total assessed expenditure on services, roads and the actual expenditure on a range of functions referred to as 'effort-positive' functions.

The revenue-raising capacity of each council is calculated as the total of assessed rates, assessed other revenue and effort-positive revenue.

In determining the grant for each council other grant contributions from the Commonwealth and State are taken into account as revenue.

The major inclusion for all councils is the Commonwealth's Identified Road Grant. The Queensland Local Government Grants Commission takes 70 per cent of this grant revenue into account. It is discounted to 70 per cent as the grant revenue can be expended on functions excluded by the Grants Commission in calculating the Fiscal Equalisation Grant, namely water and sewerage. It is estimated that, on average, 30 per cent of council expenditure is on water and sewerage.

The other source of grant revenue taken into account is the State and Commonwealth operating subsidies received by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island councils. Sixty-seven per cent of this grant revenue is taken into account. It is discounted as the grant revenue is able to be expended on excluded functions, such as water and sewerage, and other functions, such as police services, which are not supplied by the non-Aboriginal and Island councils.

Identified road component

In 2001–02 the identified road component was distributed between local governing bodies on the following basis:

- 62.85 per cent in proportion to road length (\$341.80 per kilometre)
- 37.15 per cent in proportion to population (\$8.25 per capita).

Principles

National principles

The national principles relating to allocation of general purpose grants payable under section 9 of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* are at Appendix A.

Transitional modification of national principles

Modification principle

Queensland was given an extension to phase in significant grant distribution effects resulting from implementing the national principles, in force under section 6 of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

The phase-in arrangements are to accord with the agreement the Commonwealth and Queensland Ministers for Local Government entered into. The relevant phase-in conditions of that agreement are detailed below.

- No allocation of general purpose grants to a local governing body by the State of Queensland is to be made such that the increase in the payment is in excess of 7 per cent of the allocation of general purpose grants made to that Local Government body in financial year 2000–01 unless:
 - the Local Government Grants Commission for Queensland determines that there are special circumstances applying to that local governing body for an increase in excess of 7 per cent, or
 - to comply with national principle A3 (Minimum Grant), an increase in excess of 7 per cent is required.
- No allocation of general purpose grants to a local governing body by the State of Queensland is to be made such that it is less

than the allocation of general purpose grants to that local governing body by the State of Queensland in financial year 2000–01.

- No allocation of general purpose grants and local roads grants to a local governing body by the State of Queensland is to be made such that the total of those grants is less than 95 per cent of the total of the general purpose and local roads grants allocated to that Local Government body by the State of Queensland in financial year 2000–01.
- Calculations of allocations for a particular financial year referred to in this determination include, where appropriate, adjustments under sections 10 and 13 made in respect of allocations for the previous financial year but actually paid in the particular year.
- The national principles, save as modified by this determination, apply to the State of Queensland.

Formulae

Fiscal equalisation component

In the equations below the following codes are used:

- TRP** = Total number of rateable properties
- GVRP** = Gross value of rural production (averaged over five years)
- PI** = Personal income of all residents of a local governing body area (1996 Census data adjusted for taxable income)
- RRTS** = Residual retail turnover sales (the difference between the retail sales turnover in a local governing body area and that local governing body's urban personal income multiplied by the average state retail sales per state urban personal income, and adjusted for taxable income)
- UCV** = Unimproved capital value

POP = Population

KR = Kilometres of total local road

Revenue

Rate raising capacity

Total rates \$ = 25.769 TRP + 0.01307886
 GVRP + 0.01525395 PI +
 0.00474784 RRTS + 0.002218
 UCV (Local Governments)

Total rates \$ = 0.00 (Aboriginal and Torres Strait
 Islander councils)

Fees

Fees and charges \$ = 133.13 POP

Effort-positive charges

Parking fines and fees Aerodrome Other transport	}	\$ = Effort-positive (actual revenue)
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Expenditure

Services

Current and capital \$ = 983 804 + 348.31 POP
 (Local Governments)

Current and capital \$ = 918.06 POP (Aboriginal
 and Torres Strait Islander
 councils) Roads

Current and capital \$ = 3 166.76 KR

Effort-positive

Includes:

- aerodromes
- other transport
- agricultural and forestry
- urban storm water drainage
- parking

Current and capital \$ = Effort-positive (actual
 expenditure)

Other expenditure not elsewhere included

Current and capital treated as an overhead and apportioned on a pro rata basis of total assessed expenditure need of other functions.

Inclusions

The Commission treats the following items as inclusions.

- 70 per cent of the year under reviews Identified Road Component
- 67 per cent of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils' operating grant received from the Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy and Development.

Identified road component

In 2001-02 the identified road component was distributed between local governing bodies on the following basis:

- 62.85 per cent in proportion to road length (\$341.80 per kilometre)
- 37.15 per cent in proportion to population (\$8.25 per capita).

Changes to methodology from previous year

With the current review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, which could introduce basic changes to grants methodologies, the Commission again decided that two changes in grant outcomes within a year or so were undesirable. In making its recommendations the Commission:

- retained the current regression equations rather than changing to new ones
- continued the partly phased in road network factors for another year
- introduced a 'no fall' floor, and a 7 per cent maximum rise to the equalisation pool (except for Boonah Shire Council which was capped at 10 per cent because of boundary changes).

Table B.1 Fiscal equalisation formula – Queensland

Grant = % expenditure – revenue – inclusions			
Revenue	Grant	%	Expenditure
Assessed rates			
\$25.769 × rateable properties + \$0.01307886 × gross value rural production + \$0.01525395 × personal income + \$0.00474784 × residual retail sales + \$0.002218 × unimproved capital value +	The calculated grant	Funding rate	Assessed non-road services (\$983,804 + (\$348.31 × population)) × disability factor (<i>Local Governments</i>) or (\$918.06 × population) × disability factor (<i>Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander councils</i>) +
Assessed charges			
\$133.13 × Population +			Assessed roads \$3,166.76 × km × Road disability factor +
Effort-positive charges (actual) +			
70% identified road grant + 67% ATSI operating grant			Effort-positive expenditure (actual) + Special disability factors (actual)

Note % – Same rate applied to each council except those councils which receive the per capita minimum grant

Western Australia

The Western Australian Local Government Grants Commission (WALGGC) uses the balanced budget method, as in previous years, for allocating Commonwealth general purpose funding, and an asset preservation model for allocating the identified local road funding component.

General purpose grant funding

The 'balanced budget' approach to horizontal equalisation was based on the formula

$$\text{Assessed revenue capacity} - \text{Assessed expenditure need} = \text{Assessed equalisation requirement}$$

for all 142 Local Governments in WA, calculated simultaneously.

Calculation of **assessed revenue capacity**, based on standardised mathematical formulae, involved assessing the revenue-raising capacity of each Local Government in five categories:

- Residential and commercial/industrial rates
- Agricultural rates
- Pastoral rates
- Mining rates
- Extraordinary revenue.

Assessed expenditure need, also based on standardised mathematical formulae, involved assessing each Local Government's operating expenditures in the provision of core services and facilities under eight 'standard' categories:

- Governance
- Law, order and public safety
- Education, health and welfare
- Community amenities
- Recreation and culture
- Building control
- Capital works
- Transport.

Assessed equalisation requirement (AER) is the result of subtracting assessed expenditure need from assessed revenue capacity. The WALGGC used a three-year average of AER as the basis for determining the grant allocations, to provide a degree of stability to grant outcomes.

The derived 2001–02 final outcome was then subjected to the Minimum Grant Principle (30 per cent of total general purpose grant component) before the balance was factored back to approximately 78 cents in the dollar in order that Local Governments received grants proportional to their calculated allocation within the State's share of the Commonwealth per capita funding pool.

In the 2001–02 determinations, 23 Local Governments received the minimum grant entitlement (one fewer than previous year).

Refinements made to the methods, as a result of WALGGC's ongoing research programmes, public hearings visit programmes, and consideration of Local Government submission claims are briefly described below.

Units of measurement

The major influence in the calculation of expenditure 'standards' was population. The WALGGC used the latest (30 June 2000) Australian Bureau of Statistics' estimated resident population data (cat. no. 3234.5). Sixty-seven Local Governments showed a decline in population on the previous year. Other key drivers used in the balanced budget approach were a range of disability factors, given relative weightings to calculate Local Governments' allowances for additional costs in the provision of services.

Grant capping

The City of Albany's submission for the continued maintenance of its grant level, equivalent to the combined pre-amalgamation levels of the former Town and Shire of Albany,

was considered justifiable and therefore maintained for the fourth year. However, the City was advised that 2001–02 was the final year of such maintenance.

Seven agricultural shires were in the area declared by the Commonwealth government as 'exceptional circumstances' due to a succession of bad seasons. Submissions were received from a number of affected shires seeking consideration of their circumstances. The WALGGC included an 'exceptional circumstances' allowance in the governance assessment. In the final grant allocation, it was apparent that a number of the affected shires would have received grant reductions. The WALGGC resolved to hold these shires' grants at the 2000–01 level. (The funds required to bring these grants up to the 2000–01 level were subtracted from Local Governments receiving increases greater than 10 per cent.)

Maximum reduction

Maximum reduction to grant allocations was limited to 15 per cent. This method was adopted to ameliorate the impact of the more severe reductions that would have otherwise been experienced by four Local Governments (Towns of Bassendean and Kwinana, and Shires of Busselton and Augusta–Margaret River).

Revenue standards

The council categories for the mining rates assessment method were reviewed. As a result, a number of high mining valuation councils were moved to Category 1 and a similar number of low mining valuation councils were moved to Category 2.

Expenditure standards

There were no significant changes in the methods of assessments and calculations. All expenditure standards, except Law Order and Public Safety and Transport, were assessed 'net of disabilities' preliminarily, in order that state total assessed

expenditures were broadly equivalent to actual average expenditures.

A few Local Governments' submissions have argued for consideration of other dwelling and property statistics in the calculation of standards. For the 2001–02 determinations, additional indicators were used for the recreation and culture and governance standards.

Disability factors

Generally, factors were reviewed and retained; some resulted in minor updates. A significant change in method was the introduction of three new factors: recognition of Australia's largest off-road vehicle area that saw the introduction of

an additional allowance for the Shire of Gingin; an 'extraordinary planning' factor to recognise the responsibilities and workloads of councils affected by significant growth; and an allowance for maintenance costs of jetties and boat ramps.

The reviews saw the 'tourism' factor discontinued (following a poor rate of response from Local Governments to the WALGGC's discussion paper on this issue), and a rationalisation of environmental issues on salinity/landcare and coastal management to a single environment allowance (incorporating information from the Department of Conservation and Land Management). A separate Environment Assessment factor was retained and updated.

Table B.2 Revenue and Expenditure Standards – WA

REVENUE STANDARDS

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL RATES

Standard = $(\$117.50 \text{ assessments} + (0.060638 \text{ valuations}))$
 Valuations: Equalised gross rental values, 1997–98 to 1999–00
 Assessments: Number of rateable assessments provided in 1999–00 information return

MINING RATES

Standard = $(\$45.12 \times \text{Tlease } 979) + (0.0757 \times \text{MINVAL}979)$ for Category 1 councils.
 Standard = $(\$111.41 \times \text{Tlease } 979) + (0.0292 \times \text{MINVAL}979)$ for Category 2 councils.
 Standard = \$0 for Category 3 councils.
 Tlease979: Total number of mining leases, 1997–98 to 1999–00
 MINVL979: Total unimproved mining valuations, 1997–98 to 1999–00

AGRICULTURAL RATES

Standard = $[(0.001484 \times \text{TVAL}979) + (\$1.18 \times \text{VGAREA}) + (301.12 \text{ per assmt})] \times 1.0863$
 TVAL979: Total average valuations of agricultural areas, 1997–98 to 1999–00
 VGAREA: Total average agricultural area in hectares, 1997 to 1999

PASTORAL RATES

Standard = $0.078641 \times \text{pastoral valuations } 1997\text{--}98 \text{ to } 1998\text{--}99$

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE

Standard = Individual assessments

CAPITAL WORKS

Standard = $\text{Total assessed expenditure } 1995\text{--}96 \times 0.22$

EXPENDITURE STANDARDS	
GENERAL GOVERNANCE (ADMINISTRATION)	
Standard =	\$27.88 per rate assessment + \$28.02 ADJPOP00 + \$96 595 ADJPOP00: Service population (population + net additional employment) 2000
LAW, ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Standard =	WAFRS levy + (15.52 × dwell2000) + (6.69 × Pop00) for fully WAFRS protected councils
Standard =	WAFRS levy + (\$213.71 × dwell2000) + (\$126.96 × Pop00) for PCC
Standard =	WAFRS levy + (158.44 × dwellings outside WAFRS) + (6.44 × Pop00) for metropolitan fringe councils DWELL2000: Number of dwellings in 2000 POP00: Population 2000
EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE	
Standard =	\$38.26 × Pop00, and SPG Factor 0.57 POP00: Population 2000
COMMUNITY AMENITIES	
Standard =	\$19.87 × ADJPOP00 & SPG Factor 0.99 ADJPOP00: Service population (population + net additional employment) 2000
RECREATION AND CULTURE CHARGES	
Standard =	[\$66.30 × ADJPOP00 + 189.22 × dwell + \$69 500] ADJPOP00: Service population (population + net additional employment) 2000
BUILDING CONTROL CHARGES	
Standard =	(28.10 × SIZE2000) + (3.21 × VTBLD979)
CAPITAL WORKS	
Standard =	Total assessed expenditure 1995-96 × 0.04
TRANSPORT	
Standard =	1.0 × 1995-96 expenditure standard + 4.0 × calculated standard

Local roads grant funding

Under the current principles, 7 per cent of the federal funds was allocated for 'Special projects' (one-third for access roads serving Aboriginal communities and two-thirds for major bridge works) as in previous years. The remaining 93 per cent was distributed according to the Asset Preservation Model (APM). The amounts involved were:

Access roads serving Aboriginal communities	\$ 1 506 710
Bridge works	\$ 3 013 420
Balance of 93 per cent for distribution	\$60 053 152
Total local road funding	\$64 573 282

Special projects – access roads serving Aboriginal communities

The Aboriginal Roads Committee, which comprised representatives from the WA Municipal Association, Main Roads WA, Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, fulfilled its advisory role with input into the allocation process. The aim of the committee was to ensure that the funds were allocated in accordance with the needs of WA's Aboriginal communities.

The committee established funding criteria based on several factors, namely, the number of Aboriginal people served by a road, the distance of the community from a sealed road, the condition of the road, the proportion of traffic serving Aboriginal communities and the availability of an alternative access. These criteria have successfully provided a rational method of assessing priorities in developing a five-year programme.

Special projects – bridge works

Allocation was made in accordance with recommendations from Main Roads WA (MRWA), which has specialised expertise in the management of bridges. MRWA assessed proposals submitted by Local Governments, using bridge condition reports and a bridge management programme. Recommendations were based on a priority of bridge maintenance needs.

Distribution of the balance of 93 per cent

The remaining funds were distributed in accordance with road preservation needs determined by the APM method. APM principles, such as minimum standards and reconstruction standards, were retained.

As in previous years, the model assessed the average annual cost of maintaining each Local Government's road network. The application

of minimum standards provided additional allowances in the model. These standards have helped Local Governments not able to develop their local road systems to achieve the same standard as that of the more affluent Local Governments.

New asset preservation needs were determined using updated road data. Road lengths data were generally found to be similar to those used in 2000–01. The few Local Governments that had already updated their local road statistics received an increased assessment of asset preservation needs.

Most of the Local Governments received increased grants for 2001–02. Fourteen received increases of 6 per cent or more. The Shire of Mount Magnet received the highest increase of 29 per cent because a significant length of gravel roads had been sealed.

Only five Local Governments received decreases, the maximum being 3.41 per cent.

South Australia

Methods – general purpose component

The methodology used to assess the general purpose component of the Local Government Financial Assistance Grants is intended to achieve an allocation of grants to local governing bodies in the State consistent with the national principles. The over-riding principle is one of Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation, which is constrained by a requirement that each local governing body must receive a minimum entitlement per head of population as prescribed in the Commonwealth legislation.

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission uses a direct assessment approach to the calculations. This involves the separate estimation of a component revenue grant and a component expenditure grant for each council, which are aggregated to determine each council's

overall equalisation need. Available funds are distributed in accordance with the relativities established through this process and adjustments are made as necessary to ensure the per capita minimum entitlement is met for each council. For local governing bodies outside the incorporated areas (the Outback Areas Community Development Trust and five Aboriginal communities) allocations are made on a per capita basis.

A standard formula is used as a basis for both the revenue and expenditure component grants.

Component revenue grants

Component revenue grants compensate or penalise councils according to whether their capacity to raise revenue from rates is less than or greater than the State average. Councils with below-average capacity to raise revenue receive positive component revenue grants and councils with above average capacity receive negative assessments.

The Commission estimates each council's component revenue grant by applying the State average rate in the dollar to the difference between the council's improved capital values per capita and those for the State as a whole, and multiplying this back by the council's population. The State average rate in the dollar is the ratio of total rate revenue to total improved capital values of rateable property. The result shows how much less (or more) rate revenue a council would be able to raise than the average for the State as a whole if it applied the State average rate in the dollar to the capital values of its rateable properties. This calculation is repeated for each of five land use categories: residential, commercial, industrial, rural and other.

To overcome fluctuations in the base data, valuations, rate revenue and population are averaged over three years.

Subsidies

Subsidies that are of the type that most councils receive and are not dependent upon their own special effort – that is, they are effort-neutral – are treated by the 'inclusion approach'. That is, subsidies such as those for public bus and library services and roads are included as a revenue function.

Component expenditure grants

Component expenditure grants compensate or penalise councils according to whether the costs of providing a standard range of Local Government services can be expected to be greater than or less than the average cost for the State as a whole due to factors outside the control of councils. The Commission assesses expenditure needs and a component expenditure grant for each of a range of functions and these are aggregated to give a total component expenditure grant for each council.

The methodology compares each council per capita against the State average. This enables the comparison to be consistent and to compare like with like.

Each function is identified by a main driver or unit of measure. This is divided into the total expenditure on the function for the State as a whole to determine the average or standard cost for the particular function. For example, in the case of the expenditure function built-up sealed roads, 'kilometres of built-up sealed roads' is the unit of measure.

Using this example, the length of built-up sealed roads per capita for each council is compared with the State's length of built-up sealed road per capita. The difference, be it positive, negative or zero, is then multiplied by the average cost per kilometre for construction and maintenance of built-up sealed roads for the State as a whole (standard cost). This in turn is multiplied back by the council's population to give the

component expenditure grant for the function. As already indicated this grant can be positive, negative or zero.

In addition, it is recognised that there may be other factors beyond a council's control which require it to spend more (or less) per unit of measure than the State average, in this example to reconstruct or maintain a kilometre of road. Accordingly, the methodology allows for a cost relativity index (CRI) to be determined for each expenditure function for each council. Indices are centred around 1.0, and are used to inflate or deflate the component grant for each council. In the case of roads, CRIs measure relative costs of factors such as material haulage, soil type, rainfall and drainage.

To overcome fluctuations in the base data, inputs into the expenditure assessments (with the exception of the newly revised road lengths) are averaged over three years.

Aggregated revenue and expenditure grants

Component grants for all revenue categories and expenditure functions, calculated for each council using the method outlined above, are aggregated to give each council's total raw grant figure. Where the raw grant calculation per head of population for a council is less than the per capita minimum established as set out in the Act (\$14.88 for 2001–02), the grant is adjusted to bring it up to the per capita minimum entitlement. The balance of the allocated amount, less allocation to other local governing bodies outside the incorporated areas, is then apportioned to the remaining councils based on their calculated proportion of the raw grant. Commission-determined limits may then be applied to minimise the impact on council's budgetary processes. An iterative process is then undertaken until the full allocation is determined.

Methods – identified local road grants

In South Australia, the identified local road grants pool is divided into formula grants (85 per cent) and special local road grants (15 per cent).

The formula component is divided between metropolitan and non-metropolitan councils on the basis of an equal weighting of road length and population.

In the metropolitan area, allocations to individual councils are determined again by an equal weighting of population and road length. In the non-metropolitan area, allocations are made on an equal weighting of population, road length and area of council.

Distribution of the special local road grants is based on recommendations from the Local Roads Advisory Committee. This committee is responsible for assessing submissions from regional associations on local road projects of regional significance.

Methods – Outback Areas Community Development Trust

The Outback Areas Community Development Trust is prescribed as a local governing body for the purposes of the Grants Commission's recommendations.

The Trust was established in May 1978 under legislation of the South Australian Parliament. It has a broad responsibility for community development activities in the outback areas of the State and with particular emphasis on those functions that are at present normally undertaken by local councils elsewhere in the State.

Due to the lack of comparable data, the Commission is not able to calculate the grant to the Trust in the same manner as grants to other local governing bodies. Rather, a per capita grant has been established. The 2001–02 grant was \$156.77 per capita.

Methods – Aboriginal communities

Since 1994–95 the Grants Commission has allocated grants to five Aboriginal communities recognised as local governing authorities for the purposes of the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

The Aboriginal communities are Anangu Pitjantjatjara, Gerard Community Council Inc., Maralinga Tjarutja, Nepabunna Community Council Inc., and Yalata Community Council Inc.

Again due to the unavailability of data, grants for these communities are not calculated in the same manner as grants to other local governing bodies. The Commission used the services of a consultant, Alan Morton, of Morton Consulting Services, who undertook a study on the expenditure needs of the communities and their revenue-raising capacities. Comparisons were made with communities in other states and per capita grants were established. For 2001–02 the grant varied from \$227.38 per capita for Gerard to \$310.06 for Anangu Pitjantjatjara and Maralinga Tjarutja.

Formulae

General financial assistance

The formula for the calculation of the raw revenue grants can be expressed as:

$$G = P_c \times S \times \left[\left(\frac{U_s}{P_s} \times CRI_s \right) - \left(\frac{U_c}{P_c} \times CRI_c \right) \right]$$

Similarly, the formula for the calculation of the raw expenditure grants can be expressed as:

$$G = P_c \times S \times \left[\left(\frac{U_c}{P_c} \times CRI_c \right) - \left(\frac{U_s}{P_s} \times CRI_s \right) \right]$$

Subscripts of s or c are used to describe whether it applies to the state or a particular council.

G = council's calculated relative need assessment

P = population

U = unit of measure. Some units of measure are multiplied by a weight.

S = standard, be it cost or revenue = $\frac{\text{expenditure or income}}{U}$

CRI = Cost Relativity Index (previously known as the disability factor). They are centred around 1.00, that is, CRIs equals 1.00. If more than one CRI exists for any function then they are multiplied together to give an overall CRI for that function.

Currently in all calculations with the exception of stormwater and roads there are no disability factors applied and consequently, $CRI_c = 1.0$.

The raw grants, calculated for all functions using the above formulae, both on the revenue and expenditure sides, are then totalled to give each council's total raw grant figure. Any council whose raw calculation per head is less than the per capita figure, (\$14.88 for 2001–02), then has the per capita figure applied. The balance of the allocated amount is then apportioned to the remaining councils based on their calculated proportion of the raw grant. Commission-determined limits are then applied to minimise the impact on council's budgetary processes. (For 2001–02, the Commission allowed changes to some councils to be as great as positive 20 per cent, and some to be greater than minus 10 per cent from the previous year's actual allocation.) An iterative process is then undertaken until the full allocation is determined.

The following table details the approach taken to expenditure functions included in the new methodology.

Table B.3 Expenditure function, standard cost and units of measure – SA

Expenditure function	Standard cost	Units of measure
Subsidised services – public buses	Set at 1.00	Derived from the level of State subsidy received by each council ¹
Subsidised services – animal and plant control	Set at 1.00	Derived from the level of council contributions to Animal and Plant Control Boards ²
Garbage	Reported expenditures ³	Number of residential properties
Aged care services	Reported expenditures ³	Population aged 65+ per ABS Census and estimated resident population
Services to families and children	Reported expenditures ³	Population aged 0–4 yrs per ABS Census and estimated resident population
Health inspection	Reported expenditures ³	Sum [3 x establishments to inspect, 1 x registered nursing homes, hospitals and hostels, and 1.5 x number of sub-standard dwellings]
Subsidised services – libraries	Set at 1.00	Derived from the level of State grant received by each council ⁴
Sport, recreation and culture – active	Reported expenditures ³	Population aged 5–24 years per ABS Census and estimated resident population
Sealed roads – built-up	Reported expenditures ³	Kilometres of built-up sealed road as reported in GIR
Sealed roads – non-built-up	Reported expenditures ³	Kilometres of non-built-up sealed road as reported in GIR
Unsealed roads – built-up	Reported expenditures ³	Kilometres of built-up unsealed road as reported in GIR
Unsealed roads – non-built-up	Reported expenditures ³	Kilometres of non-built-up unsealed road as reported in GIR
Unformed roads – non-built-up	Reported expenditures ³	Kilometres of unformed road as reported in GIR
Stormwater construction ^{5, 6}	Reported expenditures ³	Number of urban properties ⁷
Stormwater maintenance ^{5, 6}	Reported expenditures ³	Number of urban properties ⁷
Emergency services	Reported expenditures ³	Total number of properties
Planning and building control	Reported expenditures ³	Number of new developments and additions
Other needs assessments	Set at 1.00	Based on Commission determined relative expenditure needs in a number of areas ⁸

- 1 The unit of measure or standardised expense is derived as the product of the council subsidy for each council and the average ratio of council expenditures (net of revenue) to State subsidies, for all councils having subsidised bus services.
- 2 The unit of measure or standardised expense is taken as each council's contribution to the operation of Animal and Plant Control Boards.
- 3 Councils' expenditures reported on ABS returns.
- 4 The unit of measure or standardised expense is derived as the product of the council grant for each council and the average ratio of council expenditures (net of revenue) to State grants, for all councils.
- 5 Includes both construction and maintenance activities.
- 6 The Commission has also decided, for these functions, to use CRIs based on the results of a previous consultancy by BC Tonkin and Associates.
- 7 Urban properties = sum [residential properties, commercial properties, industrial properties, exempt residential properties, exempt commercial properties, exempt industrial properties].
- 8 Comprises Commission-determined relative expenditure needs with respect to the following: non-resident use/tourism; duplication of facilities; isolation/distance; needs of councils with respect to aboriginal communities; socioeconomic aspects; and other special needs of councils.

Table B.4 Summary of standards by function – SA

Table summary of standards by function				
Function	Standard in dollars	Unit of measure per capita	Total units of measure	Unit of measure
Expenditure functions				
Subsidised services – public buses	1.00	0.76065	1 128 290	Standardised expense
Subsidised services – animal and plant control	1.00	1.49231	2 213 584	Expenditure from Animal and Plant Control Board
Garbage	83.06	0.39530	586 361	Number of residential properties
Aged care services	43.47	0.13876	205 824	Population aged more than 65
Services to families and children	34.38	0.06693	99 282	Population aged 0–4
Health inspection	39.72	0.09275	137 579	3 × establishments to inspect + 1 × hospitals, registered nursing homes, rest homes and hostels + 1.5 × sub-standard dwellings
Subsidised services – libraries	1.00	19.28634	28 607 982	Standardised expense
Sport recreation and culture	168.14	0.27581	409 117	Population aged 5–24
Sealed roads – urban	10 054.65	0.00656	9 736	Kilometres of sealed built-up
Sealed roads – non-urban	4 227.74	0.00388	5 751	Kilometres of sealed non-built-up
Unsealed roads – urban	820.41	0.00062	921	Kilometres of formed and surfaced, and natural surface formed built-up
Unsealed roads – non-urban	561.17	0.03280	48 655	Kilometres of formed and surfaced, and natural surface formed non-built-up
Roads – unformed	47.56	0.00609	9 030	Kilometres of natural surfaced unformed
Stormwater drainage – construction	21.80	0.42784	634 629	Number of urban, industrial and commercial properties including exempt
Stormwater drainage – maintenance	8.98	0.42784	634 629	Number of urban, industrial and commercial properties including exempt
Emergency services	11.95	0.54053	801 784	Total number of properties
Planning and building control	408.89	0.02763	40 990	Number of new developments and additions
Revenue functions				
Rates				
– residential	0.0048	45 459	67 430 468 809	Valuation of residential
– commercial	0.0075	7 003	10 388 163 204	Valuation of commercial
– industrial	0.0095	1 250	1 853 652 147	Valuation of industrial
– rural	0.0039	9 138	13 555 142 153	Valuation of rural
– other	0.0037	2 994	4 440 540 040	Valuation of other
Subsidies	1.00	20.02695	29 706 542	The total of the subsidies

Note: Total population = 1 494 634

The Commission is aware that there are many factors that may influence a council's expenditure and that it is not always possible to determine objectively the extent to which a council's expenditure is affected by inherent or special factors. Therefore, in determining units of measure and cost relativity indices, the Commission must exercise its judgement based on experience, the evidence submitted to the Commission, and the knowledge gained by the Commission during visits to council areas and as a result of discussions with elected members and staff.

The above table enables a council to calculate its raw grant for each of the given functions. To do this the council must calculate its own unit of measure per capita, compare it with the similar figure from the table and then multiply the difference by the standard from the table and its own population. If CRIs are applicable then they must be included as a multiplier against the council's unit of measure per capita. Currently CRIs are only used in the roads and stormwater functions. Further CRIs will be developed over time.

It must be stressed that this only allows the calculation of the raw grant, not the estimated allocation. The calculation of the estimated grant is not possible as per capita minimums need to be applied and the total allocation apportioned to the remaining councils.

Road length audit – Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping

During 1999-00, the Commission sought the assistance of consultants PPK Environment and Infrastructure Pty Ltd to audit council's road lengths by mapping all local roads across the State (primarily from hard copy maps) into a Geographical Information System (GIS).

The review involved extensive council involvement. The consultants worked closely

with the data councils supplied to the Commission as part of their General Information Return, that is, road maps and summary data on road lengths by type. The consultants then liaised with councils over the data to ensure that the information the consultants were mapping was accurate.

While the Commission used the outcome of the road length audit in the allocation of the 2000-01 general purpose grants, the Commission believed that the data would need further refinements and an ongoing commitment to its maintenance.

As a result in early in 2001 the Commission engaged the services of an engineer on a part-time basis to refine the road length data (following updates supplied to the Commission by councils), to address other ongoing engineering-related concerns and to authenticate the data used in the calculation process.

The revisions to the road length data (as at 30 June 2000) were used in the calculation of the 2001-02 general purpose grants.

The CRIs developed previously to reflect the difference between councils of the cost of re-constructing and maintaining roads were re-run to ensure the factors reflected the revised road lengths.

The outcome of revising the road length data was that:

- no general trends were identified through the introduction of the revised road lengths. The adjustments were on an individual council basis
- the revised CRIs resulted in a greater recognition of council's with very poor soils.

A by-product of the road length audit process has been the production of detailed maps by council, prepared in a GIS format, consistently mapped across the State. The Commission was again able to give councils a copy of their map for their own use.

Tasmania

General purpose grant distribution

State methods for distributing Financial Assistance Grants 2001–02

The Commission's equalisation model is based on the 'balanced budget' approach. That is, each local governing body's grant entitlement is derived from the difference between:

- the expenditure 'required' to provide a common range of services, given its unique cost conditions (standardised expenditure), and
- revenue that could be raised by applying a standard or average rate per dollar of assessed annual values to all rateable property in that local governing body (standardised revenue), plus
- specific purpose payments received that are treated by the 'inclusion' approach.

The difference between standardised expenditure and standardised revenue is the 'standardised deficit'. This becomes the net standardised deficit after adjustment for specific purpose payments and any special allowances. It should be noted that the total net standardised deficit normally exceeds the total of grant funds available. Accordingly, the final step in determining grant entitlements is to proportionately adjust the individual net standardised deficits to account for the shortfall.

Specific purpose payments are treated by either the 'inclusion' or 'deduction' approach. The 'inclusion' approach recognises funds received by councils as contributing to normal expenditure for the purpose of calculating expenditure standards. They are treated as a source of revenue and subsequently deducted from a municipal area's standardised deficit. Using the 'deduction' approach, funds are excluded from expenditure and revenue data prior to the determination

of expenditure standards. The deduction approach is employed where:

- a council is effectively acting as an agent of the State or Commonwealth Governments and the specific purpose payment is a reimbursement of costs incurred, or
- grants for a particular service are received by only a relatively small number of councils, and the service is generally provided only where grants are received.

Equalisation therefore occurs on the basis of 'net' expenditures where this particular approach to the treatment of specific purpose payments is adopted.

No matter how sophisticated the Commission's methodology might become, there is always the need for the Commission to exercise broad judgement as it considers the issues which confront it each year as it goes about its task of assessing grants.

A full explanation of the operation of the model is provided in the following paragraphs.

Calculating standardised revenue

A council's revenue capacity, or standardised revenue, is determined by multiplying the rateable assessed annual value (AAV) of properties in the municipal area by the average rate charged across the State. The Commission uses AAV data, adjustment factors and exempt AAV information supplied by the Office of the Valuer-General, and rate and water sales revenue information contained in the ABS Local Government finance statistics. An adjustment is made to account for the value of properties that are partially exempt from rates, that is, liable for service charges only.

The rateable AAV for each council is determined and then adjusted using the Valuer-General's adjustment factors so that all figures are expressed in terms of a common valuation year. Total adjusted rateable AAV for the State is divided by the total rate revenue raised by all councils (which

now also includes all revenues derived from the sale of water, including charges levied on a consumption basis) to yield a State average rate in the dollar. Standardised revenue for each council is then the product of its adjusted rateable AAV and the State average rate levied per dollar of AAV. The final standardised revenue for each council used in the base grant assessments is the relevant three-year averaged standardised revenue.

Calculating standardised expenditure

In general, the cost of providing council services varies depending upon the number of residents. Therefore, to determine the standard expenditure that is 'required' to provide a service, the Commission multiplies the State average expenditure per person by the number of residents in each municipal area.

Many councils face a range of unavoidable cost pressures in providing services. This means that they cannot provide a service at the standard level of expenditure. This is recognised by the Commission through the application of council-specific disability factors, which represent these unavoidable cost pressures, to standard expenditure to determine the standardised expenditure for each council. This method of estimating standardised expenditure is applied to all expenditure categories except the road category.

The Commission uses a modified version of the Mulholland asset preservation model to assess standardised road expenditure, based on each councils' road assets. The fundamental basis of the Mulholland asset preservation model is that, in statistical terms, a kilometre of road has an 'expected life', assuming it is appropriately constructed and maintained. At the end of this period, it will require re-construction followed by a new cycle of maintenance and rehabilitation in order to preserve it at an acceptable standard. The 'expected life', or durability, of a kilometre of road maintenance work will clearly differ depending

upon both the type of activity (sealing, re-grading) and the type of road (urban sealed, urban unsealed, rural sealed, rural unsealed) involved. Similar arguments hold with respect to both road rehabilitation and road re-construction work.

Performance standards specify, for each road type, the length of road requiring re-construction, re-grading or re-sealing each year in order to preserve the existing road asset. For example, if the seal on a nine-kilometre stretch of road has an expected life of 30 years, then, on average, 300 metres will need to be sealed each year to maintain the road at the current standard. In this case, the performance standard is approximately 0.03, or 3 per cent. Average costs per kilometre for each road type and activity combination have been derived from published unit price estimates for the same undertakings. For any given council, specific disabilities may increase or decrease the average cost of undertaking a given activity.

The model recognises 'Climate', 'Drainage', 'Material', 'Soil', 'Terrain', and 'Traffic' disabilities in road rehabilitation and re-construction, and 'Climate', 'Material', 'Terrain' and 'Traffic' disabilities in road maintenance. The need for different sub-base depths (re-construction only) is incorporated within the workings of the model. Reflecting the conclusions of an extensive review, the model now also recognises a 'Remoteness' disability factor, and an 'Urbanisation' disability adjustment for all activities. These are intended to capture elements of expenditure disabilities not otherwise accounted for in the model, and apply to a minority of councils only.

The model also makes an allowance for additional bridge-related maintenance, by converting bridge areas to equivalent road lengths (which involves multiplication by ten to recognise the greater cost per equivalent area) and adding these lengths to the road lengths used in the model.

Table B.5 Description of expenditure functions – Tasmania

Expenditure function	Explanation of expenditure function
General administration	Legislative, executive, financial and fiscal affairs relating to general purposes only ie not solely related to any one of the purposes listed below.
Health, housing and welfare	Nursing homes and other services for the aged, community health services, health inspections, family and child welfare, housing services.
Sanitation and the environment	Household and other garbage services, urban storm water drainage, street cleaning, flood mitigation and other protection of the environment.
Planning and community amenities	Planning and building services, street lighting, public conveniences, shopping malls, cemeteries and crematoria.
Recreation and culture	Public halls and civic centres, swimming pools, parks and playing grounds, sports assistance and promotion, libraries and other cultural services.
Water	Provision of water services.
Sewerage	Provision of sewerage services.
Roads	Re-construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.
Public safety	Fire protection, animal control and other public order and control.
Other	Expenditure on items not elsewhere classified. Includes saleyards and markets, tourism and area promotion, aerodrome operations, communications and natural disaster relief.

Hence in assessing ‘road’ expenditure needs for a given council, performance standards are applied to each category of road (urban sealed, urban unsealed, rural sealed, rural unsealed) to determine the length of road to be maintained, rehabilitated and reconstructed in that year in order to preserve the existing road structure. The relevant disability factors and costs per kilometre are then applied to each of these figures and the whole is summed to yield standardised ‘road’ expenditure for that council.

An explanation of the types of expenditure that comprise each expenditure function is set out in the table above.

Application of council-specific disability factors

Disability factors are used to reflect unavoidable relative cost disadvantages councils face in providing services. A range of factors have been developed to account for differences between councils in the demand for a service as well as variations in the per unit cost of supplying that service.

A factor is calculated for each municipal area by comparing its demand or supply disadvantage with the State average. The councils that demonstrate the least relative disadvantage for the class of disability concerned are assigned a minimum factor of 1.00. All other councils are compared to those councils on the minimum to determine their relative disability factors.

The following disability factors have been carefully considered by the Commission and a method adopted to quantify them:

- Scale
- Dispersion
- Isolation
- Regional responsibility
- Population growth
- Population decline
- Worker influx
- Absentee population
- Unemployment
- Age Profile
- Tourism
- Day-trippers
- Climate
- Equivalent tenements.

An outline of the approach developed by the Commission to quantify each of the above-mentioned factors is provided below. The 'climate' disability factor is not specifically dealt with as the Commission continues to use broad judgement in determining this factor.

Scale

The scale disability accounts for the diseconomies of small scale that councils face in providing some services. Diseconomies occur where the cost per person of a certain activity is greater for councils with a small population than those with larger ones. For example, each council requires a general manager whether the municipal population is 1000 or 100 000. The cost per person of the general manager is therefore much greater for smaller councils than for larger ones.

Different expenditure categories show varying degrees of diseconomy, so three scale categories have been developed – high, medium and low. The application of these to the different expenditure categories is detailed in Table B.6.

Population dispersion

The dispersion disability relates to the additional costs incurred in servicing a widely scattered population within a municipal area. The Commission recognises that associated costs arise from the need to both duplicate services and incur greater travelling and communication costs than would otherwise be the case.

The Commission completed a thorough review of the method of calculating this factor during 2001 and it is now determined according to:

- the number of population centres in each municipal area
- the population weighted distance between those centres and the municipal area's administrative centre.

Isolation

This factor recognises the increased costs that arise from geographical isolation. Such costs are associated with attracting staff to remote areas, communicating with relevant bodies, travelling and the supply of necessary construction and maintenance materials.

This disability factor is calculated according to the distance between a municipal area's main centre and the closest major regional population centre, and the distance from Hobart, the main administrative and political focus within the State.

Regional responsibility

A disability is recognised by the Commission for those authorities (host municipal areas) which provide particular services for the residents of surrounding municipal areas, without there being a counter-balancing use of services in surrounding municipal areas by residents of the regional centre, or any offsetting cash contribution for the use of those facilities.

The Commission recognises that certain towns and cities throughout the State act as regional

focal points for the provision of some services. The expenditure categories that cover these services are General Administration, Planning and Community Amenities and Recreation and Culture.

The sparsity of Local Government level data related to the consumption of council services by non-residents requires the Commission to exercise broad judgement in its assessment of regional responsibility. The Commission supplements its judgement with the results of a regression equation that draws upon actual levels of expenditure within each expenditure category to predict the magnitude of the population that is likely to be served by that level of expenditure.

Population growth / population decline

The Commission recognises that a local governing body faces certain expenditure disabilities as a result of not being able to continually change staff numbers and the scale of infrastructure in response to fluctuations in population levels. Such changes typically require planning and implementation horizons of several years or more. As a consequence, councils are often faced with excess or inadequate capacity in certain service areas depending on whether they are faced with rapid population decline or growth. Both circumstances are believed to confront councils with added expenditure burdens.

The disability factors are determined by comparing the average annual rate of population growth/decline for a particular municipal area over a five year period, against the average rate of population growth/decline for either growing or declining councils in the State as a whole.

The Commission has determined that it should provide additional assistance to those councils experiencing sustained population decline. Accordingly, commencing with the 2001–02 assessments, the threshold at which the population decline factor is applied to councils

has been reduced from an average of 2 per cent a year over five years to an average of 1 per cent a year over the same period. The weight of the disability factor has also been adjusted so as to increase its influence upon the Commission's equalisation model.

The threshold for the application of the population growth disability factor remains unchanged at an average rate of growth of 2 per cent per annum over five years.

Worker influx

This disability factor reflects the additional costs imposed on those municipal areas that have significant daily net influxes of non-resident workers. It is felt that this effect is likely to have an impact that is in excess of the more general effect of regional responsibility.

Consideration is given for potential worker influx for the major population centres in the State. Municipal areas outside these main centres are unlikely to have sufficient commercial or industrial development relative to their surrounding regions to cause any net influx of non-resident workers which impose a significant cost on the municipal area.

Determination of this factor involves estimating, from ABS census data, the number of residents working outside the municipal area and the number of non-residents working within the municipal area. The difference, or the net worker inflow, is then used to derive a disability factor in relation to actual total population. Factors are now allocated to Hobart, Glenorchy, Launceston and Burnie. All other municipal areas in the study areas had either a negative or zero net influx of non-resident workers.

Absentee population

Allowance is made by the Commission for the additional population that is not captured in the Census statistics but which nevertheless must be serviced. Specific reference is made here to those

municipal areas that have a significant number of holiday residences.

The calculation of this disability factor is based on the proportion of dwellings in each municipal area which were unoccupied at the time of the 1996 Census.

For the 2000–01 assessments the Commission has made an adjustment to the absentee population factor in order to recognise the situation faced by the West Coast Council where mine workers reside outside of the municipal area between shifts. It was accepted that the existing unoccupied dwelling statistics do not adequately reflect this phenomenon.

Age profile

A disability factor based on the proportions of residents aged between 0 and 5 years, between 15 and 25 and over 65 has been calculated by the Commission. This disability factor reflects the additional costs associated with having a higher than average proportion of the population in these groups. For example, additional costs may be incurred in the provision of health and welfare services for infants and retirees, or in the provision of sporting facilities for people under 25.

Unemployment

A disability factor reflecting the level of unemployment within a municipal area has been calculated by the Commission using data on income support payments from Centrelink. This disability factor has been calculated to capture the costs to councils of having a higher than average proportion of working-age residents unemployed. For example, additional expenditure might be incurred in the provision of recreation/leisure facilities or welfare programmes as a result of the need to cater for unemployed residents.

Following consultation with councils during the Commission's 2001 hearings and visits, the application of this factor has been extended to the

Recreation and Culture and Law, Order and Public Safety Expenditure categories.

Tourism

The Commission recognises that councils generally incur additional costs as a result of tourist influx through increased use of council resources and infrastructure. A disability factor that seeks to recognise these costs has been determined on the basis of the equivalent number of tourist beds in all establishments ranging from motels to registered camping grounds in each municipal area.

Day-tripper

Significant numbers of day-trippers who make use of council facilities are recognised as increasing council costs. Details of the number of tourist attractions and an index of visitor frequency have been combined with a factor representing the distance from major population centres and the population of those centres, to determine a relative disability. Municipal areas close to large population centres receive higher factors.

Equivalent tenements

The use of population to estimate standard water and sewerage expenditure does not recognise expenditures incurred in providing water and sewerage services to non-residential establishments. Therefore, a factor has been developed to recognise the cost of providing these services to commercial properties. This has been done by dividing the total value of serviced commercial properties by the modal residential assessed annual value in each water and sewerage district to determine the number of residential 'equivalent tenements'. From the 2000–01 assessments, a disability factor is recognised for all councils, whereas previously it was only applied to those councils with greater than one thousand equivalent tenements.

Table B.6 Application of disability factors to expenditure standards – Tasmania

Expenditure category	Disability factors	
General administration	Scale (high)	Absentee population
	Dispersion	Population decline
	Isolation	Population growth
	Regional responsibility	Tourism
	Worker influx	
Health, welfare and housing	Scale (medium)	Absentee population
	Dispersion	Population decline
	Isolation	Population growth
	Unemployment	
Sanitation and the environment	Scale (medium)	Absentee population
	Dispersion	Climate
	Tourism	Day-tripper
	Worker influx	Population growth
Planning and community amenities	Scale (medium)	Absentee population
	Dispersion	Age profile
	Isolation	Climate
	Regional responsibility	Day-tripper
	Population growth	Population decline
	Tourism	
Recreation and culture	Scale (medium)	Absentee population
	Dispersion	Age profile
	Isolation	Climate
	Regional responsibility	Day-tripper
	Population growth	Population decline
	Tourism	Unemployment
Water	Dispersion	Absentee population
	Population growth	Population decline
	Tourism	Worker influx
	Climate	Equivalent tenements
Sewerage	Dispersion	Absentee population
	Population growth	Population decline
	Tourism	Worker influx
	Climate	Equivalent tenements
Public Safety	Scale (medium)	Age profile
	Dispersion	Population decline
	Isolation	Population growth
	Unemployment	
Other	Scale (low)*	

* Both Flinders and King Island councils receive the Scale (high) factor for expenditure classified to 'Other'.

Identified local road fund distribution

To accord with the national principle (see Appendix A) and while ensuring that the grant distribution reflects the particular needs of Tasmanian councils, the road grants are distributed in the following manner:

- road preservation component: 66.5 per cent of funds, based on the relative road expenditure needs of each council as determined using the Mulholland asset preservation model
- bridge expenditure component: 28.5 per cent of funds based on relative bridge deck areas (including all concrete and wooden bridges, and box culverts over three metres total span)
- special needs, or 'betterment' component: 5 per cent of funds allocated to councils with an above average proportion of rural unsealed roads, based on rural unsealed road lengths.

Northern Territory

Methodology

The methodology used by the Commission in making its assessments for 2001–02 conforms with the requirements of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. Wherever possible, it has followed horizontal equalisation principles as set out in section 6 (3) of the Act, and as embodied in the national distribution principles.

In assessing relative expenditure and revenue needs, the Commission used the balanced budget approach. The Commission assesses the total standardised expenditure needs for each local governing body, and then deducts the assessed revenue-raising capacity to arrive at the standardised deficit. The deficit represents the funding required to enable each local governing body to deliver an average level of services when an average revenue-raising effort is made.

The methodology used by the Commission calculates standards and applies disability factors and weightings to assess each local governing body's revenue-raising capacity and expenditure requirements.

The assessed revenue-raising capacity and assessed expenditure requirements are the Commission's measures of each local governing body's ability to function at the average standard.

The calculation of standardised expenditure and revenue needs took into account population changes. These cover both increases as well as decreases where they occurred. In order to smooth the effect of these variations, the Commission adopts a three-year average of its calculated core community populations.

Revenue-raising capacity

As the ownership of the land on which many communities are located is vested in Land Trusts established pursuant to the Commonwealth *Aboriginal Lands Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*, it is not feasible to use a land valuation system to assess revenue-raising capacity.

The method of calculating revenue-raising capacity is achieved through the use of personal income statistics, obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, which allows for the determination of a council's theoretical gross income. In addition, councils that are recipients of the Northern Territory Operational Subsidy have 50 per cent of this revenue taken into account. The Commission considers that given the unique circumstances within the Northern Territory, this approach provides a reasonable indication of a council's revenue-raising capacity.

Expenditure needs and disability factors

The assessment of expenditure needs calculates standards in each category with disability factors applied as appropriate.

There are six expenditure categories taken into account by the Commission. For the 2001-02 year the total standardised expenditure needs for each local governing body is adjusted by a combination of five disability factors. In arriving at these factors the Commission took into account the factors of distance, isolation, geographic location, dispersion, external access, growth and communications, which would influence costs of service delivery by individual councils.

Population estimates

In making its assessments, the Commission considered 1996 Census data provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. However, it was concerned that these data were at variance with that returned directly by the councils and endorsed by the Department of Local Government. The Commission has recently began a joint validation exercise with the ABS in identifying reasons for the differences. This may lead to future pilot counts in a number of regional communities.

Population data for smaller local governing bodies are more difficult to determine. This is partly because of enumeration difficulties in remote areas and the non-defined boundaries of some local governing bodies. In addition, whatever population is adopted may be of limited relevance in view of the seasonal increases and decreases of the predominantly Aboriginal communities.

The Commission has derived estimated resident population data for these smaller local governing bodies by reference to information obtained from a range of sources, including the Department of Local Government and the communities themselves.

In assessing the needs of communities, the Commission took into account local resident population and included a factor for those in outstations dependent on the relative council for Local Government services.

In addition the Commission took into account interstate and overseas tourist visitors to communities that impact on the provision of Local Government services.

Formula

Revenue component

All councils:

Assessed revenue

$$\text{Raising capacity} = \text{Gross income/State income} \times \$31\,154\,002$$

$$\text{Assessed revenue} = \text{Assessed rates} + 50 \text{ per cent operational subsidy}$$

where

$$\text{Gross income} = \text{Community gross income}$$

$$\text{State income} = \text{Total NT gross income}$$

$$\text{Operational subsidy} = \text{NT operational subsidy 2000-01}$$

$$= \text{Total Local Government rate revenue of } \$31\,154\,002$$

Expenditure components

Amenity

$$(\text{Community population/Territory population}) \times \text{NT amenity expenditure} \times (\text{isolation works} \times \text{dispersion} \times \text{growth}) - \text{amenity grants}$$

General administration

$$(\text{Community population/Territory population}) \times \text{NT general administration expenditure} \times (\text{isolation administration} \times \text{dispersion} \times \text{Aboriginality}) - \text{administration grants}$$

A base level (\$70 000) of expenditure is applied to all councils.

Human services

(Community population/Territory population) ×
NT human services expenditure × (isolation
administration × Aboriginality × growth) –
human services grants

Libraries

The population figure used for these calculations
is the sum of the populations in those centres that
are in receipt of library services.

(Community population/Territory population) ×
NT Library expenditure × (isolation
administration × Aboriginality × growth) – NT
Library Grants

Recreation

(Community population/Territory population) ×
NT recreation expenditure × (isolation works ×
growth) – NT recreation grants

Transport

Community road factor/NT road factor × NT
roads expenditure

This category is calculated on weighted road
lengths by surface type. The summing of these
figures determines a council's road factor. The
road factor equation is:

10 x kerbed and sealed road + 8 × sealed road + 4
× gravel road + 1 × formed road + 0.4 ×
unformed road + 2 × cycle paths.

APPENDIX C

ACTIONS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT
COMMONWEALTH GRANTS
COMMISSION REVIEW FINDINGS

In June 2001, the Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC) provided its report to the Government on the review of the operations of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

In summary, the CGC found 'in broad terms' that the current arrangements have led to a distribution of funds in line with the intentions of the Act. Their findings suggest that there should be changes to the legislation to clarify some areas of ambiguity and strengthen the intention of the Act. The CGC also found cause for some changes to the reporting procedures in the Commonwealth's National Report and to the reporting and administration procedures of the Local Government Grants Commissions.

The Department of Transport and Regional Services, in its submission to the Inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting, proposed 26 actions that it suggested would need to be taken to implement the CGC findings. These were presented to the Committee for consideration and comments.

These 26 actions are reproduced below.

Overview

1. The objectives of the Commonwealth in providing untied financial assistance to the States for Local Government purposes under the Act should be specified. The objectives of the grants should be to provide:

- a share of financial assistance grants to all Local Governing Bodies (LGBs)
- a contribution to the costs faced by LGBs in maintaining their local roads
- relatively greater financial assistance to those LGBs which, because of their greater costs in providing services or because of their more limited ability to raise revenue, are relatively more disadvantaged than other LGBs.

2. The current arrangements should be changed by:

- creating a separate pool of financial assistance for each of the three Commonwealth's objectives, with appropriate national principles to guide Local Government Grants Commissions (LGGCs) in allocating each pool to LGBs
- requiring a more consistent implementation of the national principles by LGGCs to ensure the Commonwealth's intentions are effectively achieved.

Three pools

3. A separate pool for each objective would involve establishing three pools of financial assistance instead of the current two pools.

The pools would be:

- a Per Capita pool
- a Local Roads pool
- a Relative Need pool.

4. The provision of at least a minimum level of assistance to all LGBs should be retained and provided through the separate Per Capita pool. The purpose of the Per Capita grant pool would be 'to provide an equal per capita amount of assistance to each LGB to improve its capacity to provide services'. The Per Capita pool would be funded with what would have been 30 per cent of the General Purpose pool.

5. The separate Local Roads pool should continue. The purpose of the Local Roads pool would be 'to improve the capacity of all LGBs with responsibility for local roads to maintain those roads'.

6. The Relative Need pool should be intended to provide assistance to disadvantaged LGBs. The purpose for the Relative Need pool would be 'to provide additional assistance to needier LGBs to improve their capacity to provide services'. The establishment of this pool would be funded from what is left of the present General Purpose pool after the proposed Per Capita grant pool is established – that is, 70 per cent of the present General Purpose pool.

7. The process described by the Act as horizontal equalisation is about assessing relative needs, with the assessment of those needs being based on equalisation principles. The language of the Act should be amended to make the real intention of this purpose clear. The expression of horizontal equalisation should be removed from the Act. The concept of relative need using equalisation principles should be used in place of horizontal equalisation.

Purposes

8. Establishing a separate Per Capita pool and a separate Relative Need pool would make the existing purpose of 'improving the financial capacity of local governing bodies' unnecessary and it could be deleted from the Act.

9. The purpose of 'improving the efficiency and effectiveness of local governing bodies' should be removed because it is conceptually inconsistent with arrangements that provide for the distribution of untied grants. That is, no purpose can be assigned to untied grants.

10. Similarly, the purpose of 'improving the provision by local governing bodies of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities' should be removed because it is conceptually inconsistent with arrangements that provide for the distribution of untied grants.

11. The Act should continue to provide for:

- the formulation of national principles to guide States' allocation of the funds to LGBs
- an annual report to the Parliament (called the National Report) about the operation of the Act, including commentary on the States' allocation of the funds to LGBs.

Goals

12. The Act should continue to specify goals relating to:

- increasing the transparency and accountability of the States in respect of the allocation of these funds
- improving the consistency in the methods by which the States allocate the Relative Need and the Local Roads pools.

13. The current transparency and accountability goal is being achieved to a limited extent but further improvements can be made. LGGCs should provide more information in their annual reports (see paragraph 14) and the National

Report should provide commentary on the approaches used by LGGCs to enhance the transparency and accountability of their processes (see paragraph 23).

14. As a minimum, the LGGCs' annual reports should provide information on:

- the grant outcomes of all LGBs in the State
- the expenditure and revenue assessments of all LGBs in the State
- the key drivers of LGGCs' expenditure and revenue assessments.

15. Understanding of the process would be improved if the National Report provided commentary on the LGGCs' approaches, explained how those approaches relate to and satisfy the national principles, and analysed the influences on and trends in grant outcomes across LGBs and States.

16. Consistency of methods is about ensuring the methods and policies of LGGCs are consistent with the national principles rather than achieving uniformity of LGGCs' methods and policies. The language of the Act should be amended to make the intention of this goal clear.

National principles

17. The Per Capita national principle should instruct the LGGCs to distribute the Per Capita pool on the basis of population. The proposed Per Capita national principle would be:

Grants to local governing bodies from the Per Capita Pool shall be allocated to each local governing body on the basis of its population.

18. The existing Local Roads national principle should be retained with minor simplifying amendments to instruct the LGGCs to distribute the pool on the basis of relative road needs. The amended national principle for the local roads pool would be:

Grants to local governing bodies from the Local Roads Pool shall be allocated on the basis of the

relative road needs of each local governing body for roads expenditure. Local governing bodies would be assessed to have greater relative need if, for reasons beyond their control, they faced higher than average costs of providing road services.

19. The Relative Need principle should instruct LGGCs to distribute the Relative Need pool using assessments of relative need based on equalisation principles. The proposed national principle would be:

Grants to local governing bodies from the Relative Needs Pool shall be allocated using assessments of relative need based on equalisation principles. Relative needs of local governing bodies will be measured through a comprehensive assessment of the expenditure they would incur in providing a standard level of services and the revenues they could access from a standard effort. Local governing bodies will be assessed to have greater relative need if, for reasons beyond their control, they face higher than average costs of providing services or a reduced capacity to raise revenue.

20. The Other Grants Support principle is an essential element of the equalisation principle and, therefore, is an appropriate principle for the Act's equity purpose. It is not being consistently implemented by LGGCs and that is impacting on equalisation outcomes. The language of this principle is not sufficiently clear and it should be improved to make the concept easier for LGBs to understand and for LGGCs to implement consistently. The proposed national principle would be:

The assessment of a local governing body's relative need based on equalisation principles is to include a recognition of any grants, including the Per Capita and Local Roads grants provided by this Act, received by local governing bodies and used to finance expenditure for which a relative needs assessment is made.

21. The Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islanders principle should be strengthened to make explicit that the needs of all Indigenous people must be reflected in the assessments of the

LGGCs. The proposed national principle would be:

The assessment of a local governing body's relative need based on equalisation principles is to include recognition of the needs of all Indigenous people within its boundaries. In this respect, local governing bodies will be assessed to have greater relative need if, for reasons beyond their control, they face a higher than average demand for services, higher than average costs of providing services or a reduced capacity to raise revenue, as a result of their Indigenous population.

22. The Effort Neutrality principle is appropriate and understood by LGGCs. The proposed national principle would be:

An effort or policy neutral approach will be used in assessing the full range of the expenditure local governing bodies would incur in providing a standard level of services and the revenues they could access from a standard effort. An individual local governing body's policies or choices in relation to the services it provides or the revenues it accesses should not influence the level of grant it receives.

National Report

23. The National Report needs to play a much stronger monitoring role. Areas that it should monitor and report on include:

- the extent to which LGGCs' assessment methods and approaches are consistent with the national principles
- the extent to which LGGCs are modifying their equalisation assessments to deliver greater stability in annual grants
- the extent to which LGGCs' assessment methods recognise the needs of Indigenous people
- the performance of LGBs in providing services to Indigenous people (performance measures should be developed for this purpose)
- the extent to which LGGCs' processes explain how individual grants have been calculated

and provide sufficient information to enable LGBs to calculate them if they wish

- the effectiveness of the proposed transitional arrangements.

Announcing grant allocations

24. Final grant allocations to each LGB cannot be announced before the Commonwealth brings down its Budget in May, but it should be possible to announce them very shortly after that time.

To do so would require:

- LGGCs to have their grant recommendations completed before May (based on the previous year's national pool)
- a quicker approval process – the process by which the Commonwealth approves the LGGCs' recommendations; based on a study/assessment of their methods rather than their results
- final grant allocations to be determined using the level of funding announced in the Commonwealth budget.

There should be no adjustment in the following year for changes in these estimates. This would greatly simplify the process.

Eligibility for assistance

25. At present, the Commonwealth Minister can declare an LGB only at the request of a State Minister. Either Minister should be able to initiate a proposal for a declaration but both Ministers should have to agree to that declaration. The current Act is not clear on whether an existing declaration can be revoked. There is no reason why the Commonwealth and State Ministers should not be able to agree to revoke an existing declaration.

Transition arrangements

26. Acceptance of the recommendations would lead to changes in some of the assessment practices of LGGCs and these changes will in turn change the grant allocations of LGBs. A five year transitional period would be allowed to give:

- LGGCs time to change their assessment methods
- LGBs time to adjust to the change in their grant.

APPENDIX D

DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2001–02

Introduction

Table D.1 shows the distribution of Local Government financial assistance grants and some basic information, such as population, area and road length (as supplied by State Grants Commissions) for each council in Australia.

For the financial assistance grants, the table shows the actual grant entitlement for 2001–02 and the estimated grant entitlement for 2002–03. For each of these years, the components of the financial assistance grants (the general purpose grant and the local road grant) are also given.

Councils are listed under their category according to the Australian Classification of Local Governments (ACLG). Appendix F describes this classification system. Within each category, councils are sorted by the size of their population, starting with the smallest.

There are two ways to find a council in Table D.1. The first way is consult Appendix F to obtain the ACLG category, locate that category in Table D.1 and then locate that council in the category. Alternatively, use the Index for Local Governments at the end of this publication to locate the relevant page in the table that includes that council and then locate the council on that page.

To facilitate comparison, the general purpose grant per capita is provided for 2001–02. For further comparative purposes the average general purpose grant per capita for councils, grouped by ACLG and by State, is at Table 2.7.

Notwithstanding the capacity of the ACLG system to group like councils, it should be noted that there remains considerable scope for divergence within these categories, and for this reason the figures should only be taken as a starting point for inquiring into grant outcomes. This divergence can occur because of factors including isolation, population distribution, local economic performance, daily or seasonal population changes, the age of the population and geographic differences.

Councils receiving the minimum per capita grant in 2001–02 are indicated with a hash (#) beside their entry in the 'General Purpose Grants per Capita' column. For further information on the minimum grant entitlement, see 'Councils on the minimum grant' in chapter 2.

The source of the data is the relevant Local Government grants commission.

Key to symbols in Table D.1

C	=	City
S	=	Shire
DC	=	District Council
CGC	=	Community Government Council
M	=	Municipal
T	=	Town
B	=	Borough
RC	=	Regional City
Bd	=	Board

Table D.1 Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government

Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	Total road length	2001-02 Actual entitlement			GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	2002-03 Estimated entitlement		
					General purpose	Roads	Total grant			General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Urban Capital City (UCC)												
Perth (C)	WA	6 785	9	93	\$102 080	\$330 802	\$432 882	\$15.04 #	\$3 557.01	\$112 706	\$343 336	\$456 042
Adelaide (C)	SA	13 496	15	129	\$320 598	\$162 016	\$482 614	\$23.76	\$1 255.94	\$232 598	\$351 594	\$584 192
Sydney City	NSW	24 907	7	59	\$378 928	\$131 392	\$510 320	\$15.21 #	\$2 226.98	\$420 452	\$141 368	\$561 820
Hobart (C)	TAS	45 923	120	303	\$690 175	\$1 038 478	\$1 728 653	\$15.03 #	\$3 427.32	\$710 422	\$1 189 370	\$1 899 792
Melbourne (C)	VIC	51 823	36	202	\$780 587	\$319 945	\$1 100 532	\$15.06 #	\$1 583.89	\$884 000	\$296 677	\$1 180 677
Darwin (C)	NT	73 329	144	464	\$1 391 089	\$1 363 165	\$2 754 254	\$18.97	\$2 937.86	\$1 294 349	\$1 323 687	\$2 618 036
Brisbane	QLD	882 259	1 327	5 285	\$13 350 300	\$9 216 492	\$22 566 792	\$15.13 #	\$1 743.90	\$13 895 329	\$9 637 932	\$23 533 261
Urban Development Small (UDS)												
Docklands Authority	VIC	200	n/a	4	\$3 026	\$6 331	\$9 357	\$15.13 #	\$1 582.75	\$4 000	\$6 583	\$10 583
Peppermint Grove (S)	WA	1 748	2	9	\$26 298	\$11 545	\$37 843	\$15.04 #	\$1 282.78	\$27 119	\$11 979	\$39 098
East Fremantle (T)	WA	6 660	3	36	\$100 199	\$49 771	\$149 970	\$15.04 #	\$1 382.53	\$102 966	\$51 694	\$154 660
Walkerville (M)	SA	7 125	4	35	\$107 604	\$48 304	\$155 908	\$15.10 #	\$1 380.11	\$110 946	\$50 283	\$161 229
Cottesloe (T)	WA	7 599	4	49	\$114 326	\$71 266	\$185 592	\$15.04 #	\$1 454.41	\$115 299	\$73 824	\$189 123
Mosman Park (T)	WA	8 119	4	41	\$122 150	\$53 237	\$175 387	\$15.04 #	\$1 298.46	\$127 199	\$55 296	\$182 495
Claremont (T)	WA	9 522	5	47	\$143 257	\$71 453	\$214 710	\$15.04 #	\$1 520.28	\$147 110	\$74 008	\$221 118
Hunters Hill Municipal	NSW	13 856	6	61	\$210 800	\$94 396	\$305 196	\$15.21 #	\$1 547.48	\$219 180	\$97 930	\$317 110
Bassendean (T)	WA	13 963	11	93	\$291 661	\$135 145	\$426 806	\$20.89	\$1 453.17	\$246 548	\$140 375	\$386 923
Subiaco (C)	WA	15 763	7	87	\$237 153	\$160 627	\$397 780	\$15.04 #	\$1 846.29	\$245 847	\$166 099	\$411 946
Prospect (C)	SA	19 150	8	90	\$289 208	\$126 935	\$416 143	\$15.10 #	\$1 410.39	\$299 139	\$357 145	\$656 284
Netlands (C)	WA	21 505	21	137	\$323 540	\$194 688	\$518 228	\$15.04 #	\$1 421.08	\$333 857	\$202 107	\$535 964
Cambridge (T)	WA	23 999	22	172	\$361 062	\$265 409	\$626 471	\$15.04 #	\$1 543.08	\$369 928	\$274 566	\$644 494
Vincent (T)	WA	25 336	10	135	\$381 177	\$246 427	\$627 604	\$15.04 #	\$1 825.39	\$391 383	\$254 445	\$645 828
Fremantle (C)	WA	26 004	18	166	\$391 227	\$273 407	\$664 634	\$15.04 #	\$1 647.03	\$405 768	\$283 127	\$688 895

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	Total road length	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement				
					General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Victoria Park (T)	WA	27 499	18	158	\$413 720	\$262 016	\$675 736	\$15.04 #	\$1 658.33	\$430 511	\$270 624	\$701 135
Mosman Municipal	NSW	28 412	9	85	\$432 256	\$151 736	\$583 992	\$15.21 #	\$1 785.13	\$449 448	\$157 288	\$606 736
Strathfield Municipal	NSW	28 674	14	86	\$436 240	\$164 832	\$601 072	\$15.21 #	\$1 916.65	\$453 808	\$171 336	\$625 144
Belmont (C)	WA	29 444	40	223	\$442 982	\$344 550	\$787 532	\$15.04 #	\$1 545.07	\$459 605	\$357 849	\$817 454
Urban Development Medium (UDM)												
Burwood	NSW	30 598	7	82	\$465 512	\$156 172	\$621 684	\$15.21 #	\$1 904.54	\$481 664	\$161 536	\$643 200
Lane Cove Municipal	NSW	31 775	11	100	\$483 416	\$174 068	\$657 484	\$15.21 #	\$1 740.68	\$500 320	\$180 016	\$680 336
Holdfast Bay (C)	SA	33 374	15	176	\$505 118	\$234 261	\$739 379	\$15.14 #	\$1 331.03	\$520 348	\$243 560	\$763 908
Norwood Payneham and St Peters (C) SA	SA	34 304	15	172	\$518 069	\$232 928	\$750 997	\$15.10 #	\$1 354.23	\$539 730	\$242 495	\$782 225
Botany Bay City	NSW	36 073	22	89	\$810 396	\$175 900	\$986 296	\$22.47	\$1 976.40	\$785 204	\$182 944	\$968 148
Unley (C)	SA	36 983	14	170	\$558 529	\$245 743	\$804 272	\$15.10 #	\$1 445.55	\$578 058	\$255 446	\$833 504
South Perth (C)	WA	37 684	20	186	\$566 952	\$272 797	\$839 749	\$15.04 #	\$1 466.65	\$584 983	\$283 074	\$868 057
Manly	NSW	38 510	14	103	\$585 884	\$194 852	\$780 736	\$15.21 #	\$1 891.77	\$612 308	\$202 564	\$814 872
Burnside (C)	SA	42 088	27	237	\$635 626	\$289 087	\$924 713	\$15.10 #	\$1 219.78	\$657 882	\$302 385	\$960 267
Ashfield Municipal	NSW	42 181	8	92	\$892 480	\$197 220	\$1 089 700	\$21.16	\$2 143.70	\$872 264	\$203 632	\$1 075 896
Campbelltown (C)	SA	46 515	24	251	\$825 049	\$791 859	\$1 616 908	\$17.74	\$3 154.82	\$725 065	\$339 271	\$1 064 336
Redcliffe	QLD	50 289	38	283	\$760 971	\$519 023	\$1 279 994	\$15.13 #	\$1 834.00	\$789 231	\$541 236	\$1 330 467
West Torrens Thebarton (C)	SA	52 273	37	288	\$856 264	\$374 823	\$1 231 087	\$16.38	\$1 301.47	\$812 887	\$389 701	\$1 202 588
Kogarah Municipal	NSW	52 826	16	169	\$803 684	\$291 824	\$1 095 508	\$15.21 #	\$1 726.77	\$847 624	\$304 596	\$1 152 220
Woolahra Municipal	NSW	54 773	12	135	\$833 304	\$266 968	\$1 100 272	\$15.21 #	\$1 977.54	\$860 404	\$275 728	\$1 136 132
Pittwater	NSW	56 077	91	229	\$853 144	\$378 932	\$1 232 076	\$15.21 #	\$1 654.72	\$882 336	\$390 948	\$1 273 284
Bayswater (C)	WA	56 877	33	345	\$855 709	\$534 870	\$1 390 579	\$15.04 #	\$1 550.35	\$882 475	\$555 267	\$1 437 742
Auburn	NSW	58 247	32	192	\$1 406 260	\$332 332	\$1 738 592	\$24.14	\$1 730.90	\$1 446 436	\$345 224	\$1 791 660
North Sydney	NSW	58 849	10	143	\$895 316	\$285 024	\$1 180 340	\$15.21 #	\$1 983.17	\$926 424	\$294 728	\$1 221 152

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
				Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Canada Bay	NSW	60 926	20	185	\$926 912	\$328 596	\$1 255 508	\$15.21 #	\$1 776.19	\$970 672	\$341 868	\$1 312 540
Marlyrnong (C)	VIC	61 296	31	261	\$2 960 987	\$340 537	\$3 301 524	\$48.31	\$1 304.74	\$2 760 000	\$283 146	\$3 043 146
Willoughby City	NSW	61 608	22	202	\$937 292	\$353 360	\$1 290 652	\$15.21 #	\$1 749.31	\$993 948	\$370 008	\$1 363 956
Mitcham (C)	SA	61 709	76	403	\$931 948	\$466 804	\$1 398 752	\$15.10 #	\$1 158.32	\$961 307	\$486 136	\$1 447 443
Leichhardt Municipal	NSW	62 609	13	176	\$1 381 224	\$328 800	\$1 710 024	\$22.06	\$1 868.18	\$1 433 980	\$336 128	\$1 770 108
Waverley	NSW	64 839	9	110	\$1 461 760	\$271 936	\$1 733 696	\$22.54	\$2 472.15	\$1 410 660	\$280 052	\$1 690 712
Yarra (C)	VIC	69 448	20	217	\$1 045 825	\$323 656	\$1 369 481	\$15.06 #	\$1 491.50	\$1 083 000	\$277 652	\$1 360 652
Urban Development Large (UDL)												
Hurstville City	NSW	72 217	23	210	\$1 098 692	\$380 324	\$1 479 016	\$15.21 #	\$1 811.07	\$1 159 648	\$397 304	\$1 556 952
Canning (C)	WA	76 733	65	515	\$1 154 440	\$784 811	\$1 939 251	\$15.04 #	\$1 523.90	\$1 196 884	\$841 017	\$2 037 901
Marion (C)	SA	78 350	56	455	\$1 425 679	\$583 770	\$2 009 449	\$18.20	\$1 283.01	\$1 221 280	\$606 109	\$1 827 389
Marrickville	NSW	79 445	16	190	\$3 092 036	\$382 080	\$3 474 116	\$38.92	\$2 010.95	\$3 028 516	\$393 252	\$3 421 768
Port Phillip (C)	VIC	81 540	21	207	\$1 227 357	\$319 248	\$1 546 605	\$15.05 #	\$1 542.26	\$1 307 000	\$271 886	\$1 578 886
Hobsons Bay (C)	VIC	83 562	64	428	\$3 478 352	\$526 072	\$4 004 424	\$41.63	\$1 229.14	\$3 243 000	\$417 068	\$3 660 068
South Sydney City	NSW	87 116	18	199	\$2 313 196	\$417 968	\$2 731 164	\$26.55	\$2 100.34	\$2 284 280	\$484 556	\$2 718 836
Holroyd City	NSW	88 549	40	312	\$2 319 880	\$542 152	\$2 862 032	\$26.20	\$1 737.67	\$2 339 888	\$565 116	\$2 905 004
Bayside (C)	VIC	90 717	37	347	\$1 365 523	\$425 501	\$1 791 024	\$15.05 #	\$1 226.23	\$1 426 000	\$319 732	\$1 745 732
Rockdale City	NSW	91 742	28	262	\$1 528 504	\$489 020	\$2 017 524	\$16.66	\$1 866.49	\$1 538 172	\$506 380	\$2 044 552
Stonnington (C)	VIC	92 558	26	254	\$1 393 761	\$374 228	\$1 767 989	\$15.06 #	\$1 473.34	\$1 447 000	\$313 162	\$1 760 162
Melville (C)	WA	97 349	53	528	\$1 464 606	\$719 582	\$2 184 188	\$15.04 #	\$1 362.84	\$1 516 433	\$746 966	\$2 263 399
Ryde City	NSW	97 818	40	313	\$1 488 184	\$557 996	\$2 046 180	\$15.21 #	\$1 782.73	\$1 538 060	\$577 384	\$2 115 444
Tea Tree Gully (C)	SA	98 131	96	580	\$1 786 872	\$677 781	\$2 464 653	\$18.21	\$1 168.59	\$1 566 872	\$942 343	\$2 509 215
Maroondah (C)	VIC	99 325	61	490	\$3 317 999	\$578 974	\$3 896 973	\$33.41	\$1 181.58	\$3 748 000	\$494 590	\$4 242 590

(# = Minimum Grant)

2001-02 Actual entitlement		2002-03 Estimated entitlement										
Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Port Adelaide Enfield	SA	101 217	93	644	\$2 818 491	\$769 382	\$3 587 873	\$27.85	\$1 194.69	\$2 468 491	\$910 604	\$3 379 095
Charles Sturt (C)	SA	103 080	56	562	\$1 795 140	\$956 736	\$2 751 876	\$17.42	\$1 702.38	\$1 603 908	\$770 763	\$2 374 671
Ku-ring-gai	NSW	108 127	86	433	\$1 645 020	\$689 856	\$2 334 876	\$15.21 #	\$1 593.20	\$1 706 912	\$722 560	\$2 429 472
Moonee Valley (C)	VIC	112 307	44	425	\$3 156 638	\$579 707	\$3 736 345	\$28.11	\$1 364.02	\$2 943 000	\$487 561	\$3 430 561
Salisbury (C)	SA	112 531	158	697	\$7 387 424	\$1 055 061	\$8 442 485	\$65.65	\$1 513.72	\$7 922 773	\$869 882	\$8 792 655
Frankston (C)	VIC	113 618	130	616	\$8 195 280	\$710 883	\$6 906 163	\$54.53	\$1 154.03	\$5 931 000	\$655 232	\$6 586 232
Manningham (C)	VIC	114 883	113	580	\$2 047 276	\$712 073	\$2 759 349	\$17.82	\$1 227.71	\$2 004 000	\$605 723	\$2 609 723
Banyule (C)	VIC	119 206	63	551	\$4 161 114	\$734 368	\$4 895 482	\$34.91	\$1 332.79	\$3 879 000	\$648 176	\$4 527 176
Urban Development Very Large (UDV)												
Glen Eira (C)	VIC	124 593	39	425	\$1 875 829	\$545 797	\$2 421 626	\$15.06 #	\$1 284.23	\$2 052 000	\$425 046	\$2 477 046
Randwick City	NSW	126 705	36	271	\$1 927 660	\$582 636	\$2 510 296	\$15.21 #	\$2 149.95	\$1 990 976	\$601 876	\$2 592 852
Darebin (C)	VIC	129 786	53	494	\$8 058 122	\$711 380	\$6 769 502	\$46.68	\$1 440.04	\$5 647 000	\$664 702	\$6 311 702
Greater Dandenong (C)	VIC	131 814	130	627	\$5 168 616	\$788 587	\$5 957 203	\$39.21	\$1 257.71	\$5 080 000	\$715 902	\$5 795 902
Warringah	NSW	134 744	150	464	\$2 049 968	\$794 208	\$2 844 176	\$15.21 #	\$1 711.66	\$2 121 460	\$822 148	\$2 943 608
Kingston (C)	VIC	135 251	91	575	\$2 122 914	\$697 755	\$2 820 669	\$15.70	\$1 213.49	\$2 298 000	\$586 782	\$2 884 782
Moreland (C)	VIC	136 997	51	492	\$8 708 611	\$666 259	\$7 374 870	\$48.97	\$1 354.18	\$6 253 000	\$539 699	\$6 792 699
Canterbury City	NSW	139 028	34	313	\$3 341 856	\$686 716	\$4 028 572	\$24.04	\$2 193.98	\$3 309 900	\$711 548	\$4 021 448
Knox (C)	VIC	145 873	114	711	\$4 504 008	\$876 007	\$5 380 015	\$30.88	\$1 232.08	\$4 601 000	\$804 020	\$5 405 020
Paramatta City	NSW	146 405	61	488	\$3 573 556	\$907 940	\$4 481 496	\$24.41	\$1 860.53	\$3 610 568	\$944 684	\$4 555 252
Whitehorse (C)	VIC	147 272	64	596	\$3 817 212	\$745 878	\$4 563 090	\$25.92	\$1 251.47	\$4 072 000	\$596 420	\$4 668 420
Boroondara (C)	VIC	159 701	60	572	\$2 403 280	\$774 133	\$3 177 413	\$15.05 #	\$1 353.38	\$2 499 000	\$606 433	\$3 105 433
Monash (C)	VIC	163 570	82	652	\$2 461 774	\$790 281	\$3 252 055	\$15.05 #	\$1 212.09	\$3 173 000	\$629 614	\$3 802 614
Brimbank (C)	VIC	164 503	123	764	\$8 705 462	\$950 387	\$9 655 849	\$52.92	\$1 243.96	\$8 115 000	\$825 565	\$8 940 565

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Logan	QLD	167 712	251	994	\$2 537 810	\$1 748 397	\$4 286 207	\$15.13 #	\$1 758.95	\$2 612 962	\$1 812 531	\$4 425 493
Bankstown City	NSW	172 213	77	547	\$3 787 904	\$971 084	\$4 758 988	\$22.00	\$1 775.29	\$3 952 640	\$1 006 720	\$4 959 360
Stirling (C)	WA	176 789	100	1005	\$2 659 772	\$1 491 721	\$4 151 493	\$15.04 #	\$1 484.30	\$2 753 279	\$1 545 953	\$4 299 232
Fairfield City	NSW	191 239	102	615	\$7 034 244	\$1 193 072	\$8 227 316	\$36.78	\$1 939.95	\$7 276 192	\$1 120 908	\$8 397 100
Sutherland Shire	NSW	213 131	334	763	\$3 242 532	\$1 266 396	\$4 508 928	\$15.21 #	\$1 659.76	\$3 352 752	\$1 313 476	\$4 666 228
Blacktown City	NSW	260 332	240	1 034	\$10 007 868	\$1 699 312	\$11 707 180	\$38.44	\$1 643.44	\$10 341 280	\$1 785 104	\$12 126
Urban Regional Small (URS)												
Stephen Island	QLD	102	n/a	2	\$56 419	\$1 547	\$57 966	\$553.13	\$773.50	\$60 484	\$3 506	\$63 990
Dauan Island	QLD	140	n/a	3	\$88 026	\$2 212	\$70 238	\$485.90	\$737.33	\$67 257	\$2 327	\$69 584
Coconut Island	QLD	166	n/a	2	\$80 627	\$2 083	\$82 710	\$485.70	\$1 041.50	\$86 437	\$2 199	\$88 636
Yam Island	QLD	166	n/a	2	\$132 528	\$2 083	\$134 611	\$798.36	\$1 041.50	\$131 030	\$2 199	\$133 229
Mapoon Aboriginal Council	QLD	170	n/a	35	\$61 087	\$13 556	\$74 643	\$359.34	\$387.31	\$65 488	\$14 087	\$79 575
Kubin Island	QLD	177	n/a	21	\$86 246	\$8 762	\$95 008	\$487.27	\$417.24	\$92 460	\$9 138	\$101 598
Mabuag Island	QLD	198	n/a	6	\$111 661	\$3 737	\$115 398	\$563.94	\$622.83	\$110 399	\$3 924	\$114 323
Sesia Island	QLD	211	n/a	10	\$67 687	\$5 232	\$72 919	\$320.79	\$523.20	\$72 564	\$5 485	\$78 049
Wujal Wujal	QLD	217	n/a	20	\$57 189	\$8 749	\$65 938	\$263.54	\$437.45	\$56 543	\$9 114	\$65 657
Hammond Island	QLD	220	n/a	5	\$117 755	\$3 575	\$121 330	\$535.25	\$715.00	\$126 240	\$3 761	\$130 001
Umaicco	QLD	255	n/a	22	\$110 012	\$9 761	\$119 773	\$431.42	\$443.68	\$108 768	\$10 204	\$118 972
Darnley Island	QLD	263	n/a	7	\$151 721	\$4 628	\$156 349	\$576.89	\$661.14	\$150 006	\$4 869	\$154 875
Boigu Island	QLD	267	n/a	3	\$141 803	\$3 275	\$145 078	\$531.10	\$1 091.67	\$140 200	\$3 462	\$143 662
Sabhai Island	QLD	304	n/a	7	\$190 780	\$4 971	\$195 751	\$627.57	\$710.14	\$188 623	\$5 230	\$193 853
New Mapoon	QLD	305	n/a	65	\$145 063	\$25 085	\$170 148	\$475.62	\$385.92	\$143 423	\$26 133	\$169 556
St Paul's Island	QLD	313	n/a	12	\$212 986	\$6 780	\$219 766	\$680.47	\$565.00	\$211 662	\$5 226	\$216 888

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Yorke Island	QLD	315	n/a	8	\$217 433	\$5 410	\$222 843	\$690.26	\$676.25	\$5 685	\$220 660
Injinoo (Coral Ck)	QLD	372	n/a	108	\$135 063	\$40 553	\$175 616	\$363.07	\$375.49	\$42 225	\$175 761
Sue Island (Warraber)	QLD	430	n/a	3	\$326 636	\$4 639	\$331 275	\$759.62	\$1 546.33	\$4 907	\$355 079
Lockhart Rŕver	QLD	458	n/a	175	\$86 454	\$64 499	\$150 953	\$188.76	\$368.57	\$67 024	\$152 501
Murray Island	QLD	462	n/a	5	\$267 007	\$5 600	\$272 607	\$577.94	\$1 120.00	\$5 919	\$292 165
Pornipuraw	QLD	497	n/a	200	\$36 699	\$73 492	\$110 191	\$73.84	\$367.46	\$76 374	\$112 658
Doomadgee	QLD	602	n/a	127	\$103 056	\$49 064	\$152 120	\$171.19	\$386.33	\$50 892	\$152 783
Badu Island	QLD	621	16	9	\$410 129	\$8 317	\$418 446	\$660.43	\$924.11	\$8 779	\$448 460
Hopevale	QLD	641	n/a	137	\$82 734	\$52 857	\$135 591	\$129.07	\$385.82	\$54 925	\$136 724
Weipa South	QLD	706	6	20	\$210 319	\$12 843	\$223 162	\$297.90	\$642.15	\$13 343	\$238 817
Kowanyama	QLD	819	n/a	212	\$148 910	\$80 347	\$229 257	\$181.82	\$379.00	\$83 499	\$230 726
Bamaga	QLD	835	n/a	62	\$289 955	\$28 482	\$318 437	\$347.25	\$459.39	\$29 781	\$340 628
Aurukun	QLD	889	7 382	183	\$264 339	\$70 879	\$335 218	\$297.34	\$387.32	\$73 835	\$357 221
Woorabinda	QLD	1 034	n/a	55	\$67 823	\$27 721	\$95 544	\$65.59	\$504.02	\$28 609	\$95 665
Cherbourg	QLD	1 115	n/a	70	\$75 313	\$33 598	\$108 911	\$67.55	\$479.97	\$34 812	\$109 274
Mornington	QLD	1 254	1 231	282	\$468 347	\$108 254	\$576 601	\$373.48	\$383.88	\$112 783	\$614 877
Yarrabah	QLD	1 894	n/a	27	\$190 118	\$25 213	\$215 331	\$100.38	\$933.81	\$26 165	\$229 982
Jabiru (T)	NT	2 184	13	29	\$96 153	\$77 987	\$174 140	\$44.03	\$2 689.21	\$74 784	\$164 250
Palm Island	QLD	2 226	71	41	\$266 971	\$32 845	\$299 816	\$119.93	\$801.10	\$34 131	\$320 338
Cooper Pedy (DC)	SA	2 576	78	110	\$503 236	\$46 735	\$549 971	\$195.36	\$424.86	\$45 788	\$613 703
Torres	QLD	3 347	1 868	95	\$1 485 063	\$60 947	\$1 546 010	\$443.70	\$641.55	\$64 065	\$1 656 134
Queenscliffe (B)	VIC	3 418	9	44	\$80 681	\$80 688	\$161 369	\$23.60	\$1 833.82	\$64 473	\$168 473
Roxby Downs (M)	SA	4 160	110	34	\$62 826	\$33 731	\$96 557	\$15.10 #	\$992.09	\$35 418	\$99 759
Tennant Creek (T)	NT	4 428	25	56	\$331 950	\$302 892	\$634 842	\$74.97	\$5 408.79	\$334 652	\$643 518

(# = Minimum Grant)

Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Coondiwindi	QLD	4 581	14	63	\$418 987	\$60 322	\$479 309	\$91.46	\$957.49	\$62 559	\$511 736
Narragin (T)	WA	4 718	11	68	\$566 124	\$109 185	\$675 309	\$119.99	\$1 605.66	\$113 690	\$699 560
Coogardie (S)	WA	4 807	30 400	795	\$495 895	\$284 538	\$780 433	\$103.16	\$357.91	\$296 996	\$837 334
Glen Innes Municipal	NSW	5 852	67	104	\$811 216	\$127 348	\$938 564	\$138.62	\$1 224.50	\$131 826	\$959 846
Northam (T)	WA	6 390	24	87	\$762 781	\$133 953	\$896 734	\$119.37	\$1 539.69	\$139 438	\$911 562
Roma	QLD	6 396	78	190	\$517 809	\$19 400	\$637 209	\$80.96	\$628.42	\$511 956	\$635 529
Deniliquin	NSW	7 960	130	156	\$1 168 256	\$168 488	\$1 336 744	\$146.77	\$1 080.05	\$1 199 224	\$1 375 464
Charters Towers	QLD	8 856	42	154	\$1 025 676	\$127 684	\$1 153 360	\$115.82	\$829.12	\$1 099 581	\$1 231 076
Dalby	QLD	9 777	47	147	\$669 645	\$132 861	\$802 506	\$88.49	\$903.82	\$717 896	\$854 421
Katherine (T)	NT	11 005	528	173	\$554 720	\$454 215	\$1 008 935	\$50.41	\$2 625.52	\$435 447	\$951 591
Ararat (RC)	VIC	11 318	4 212	2 342	\$1 684 212	\$1 106 676	\$2 790 888	\$148.81	\$472.53	\$1 740 000	\$2 965 012
Brighton (M)	TAS	12 980	168	151	\$735 659	\$322 964	\$1 058 623	\$56.68	\$2 138.83	\$797 735	\$1 130 368
Port Hedland (T)	WA	13 171	11 844	515	\$1 470 065	\$470 881	\$1 940 926	\$111.61	\$914.29	\$1 431 399	\$1 882 264
Port Lincoln (C)	SA	13 305	32	154	\$831 237	\$136 739	\$967 976	\$82.48	\$887.92	\$759 117	\$901 392
Port Augusta (C)	SA	13 845	1 193	412	\$2 344 006	\$182 299	\$2 526 305	\$169.30	\$442.47	\$2 513 612	\$2 702 866
Roebourne (S)	WA	14 320	15 196	579	\$2 343 017	\$523 017	\$2 866 034	\$163.62	\$903.31	\$2 380 019	\$2 925 409
Grafton City	NSW	16 950	83	164	\$1 283 480	\$272 448	\$1 555 928	\$75.72	\$1 661.27	\$1 318 680	\$1 599 788
Horsham (RC)	VIC	18 162	4 240	2 838	\$1 891 966	\$1 104 085	\$2 996 051	\$104.17	\$375.79	\$1 915 000	\$3 149 612
Burnie (C)	TAS	19 377	618	352	\$928 351	\$699 073	\$1 627 424	\$47.91	\$1 986.00	\$889 980	\$1 610 931
Kiama Municipal	NSW	19 488	258	191	\$911 888	\$256 780	\$1 168 668	\$46.79	\$1 344.40	\$937 268	\$1 204 224
Geraldton (C)	WA	19 510	28	183	\$1 073 580	\$399 347	\$1 472 927	\$55.03	\$2 182.22	\$1 172 997	\$1 588 476
Lithgow City	NSW	19 804	3 517	650	\$1 985 180	\$588 992	\$2 574 172	\$100.24	\$906.14	\$2 073 688	\$2 685 948
Glenelg (S)	VIC	19 863	6 224	2 864	\$2 366 974	\$1 875 303	\$4 242 277	\$119.16	\$703.94	\$2 633 000	\$4 917 977
Delatite (S)	VIC	20 109	6 247	2 015	\$2 001 893	\$1 270 906	\$3 272 799	\$99.55	\$630.72	\$2 211 000	\$3 591 469

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Local Roads per km	GP grant per capita	Total grant	General purpose	Roads
Colac-Onway (S)	VIC	20 217	3 437	1 698	\$2 296 378	\$1 261 763	\$3 558 141	\$113.59	\$743.09	\$1 525 066	\$3 666 066
Broken Hill City	NSW	20 429	169	211	\$2 486 416	\$328 128	\$2 814 544	\$121.71	\$1 555.11	\$336 492	\$2 919 508
Richmond Valley	NSW	20 468	2 609	939	\$2 345 320	\$863 292	\$3 208 612	\$114.58	\$919.37	\$886 076	\$3 302 680
Singleton Shire	NSW	20 479	4 896	695	\$1 290 192	\$675 932	\$1 966 124	\$63.00	\$972.56	\$702 960	\$2 061 112
Goulburn City	NSW	20 621	54	167	\$1 330 576	\$311 136	\$1 641 712	\$64.53	\$1 863.09	\$321 080	\$1 731 516
Warwick	QLD	20 632	4 425	2 312	\$2 636 222	\$974 162	\$3 610 384	\$127.77	\$421.35	\$1 010 707	\$3 836 881
Swan Hill (RC)	VIC	20 755	6 132	3 096	\$2 216 706	\$1 020 707	\$3 237 413	\$106.80	\$329.69	\$1 092 044	\$3 477 044
Central Coast (M)	TAS	21 042	947	662	\$1 357 363	\$1 090 028	\$2 447 391	\$64.51	\$1 646.57	\$1 120 882	\$2 592 781
Mount Isa	QLD	21 839	43 372	1 179	\$1 582 050	\$591 502	\$2 173 552	\$72.44	\$501.70	\$612 744	\$2 176 910
Mount Barker (DC)	SA	22 941	594	694	\$394 492	\$253 234	\$647 726	\$17.20	\$364.89	\$265 895	\$629 577
Mount Gambier (C)	SA	23 212	27	188	\$681 471	\$223 692	\$905 163	\$29.36	\$1 189.85	\$233 458	\$973 617
Whyalla (C)	SA	23 217	1 034	273	\$3 067 573	\$260 456	\$3 328 029	\$132.13	\$954.05	\$270 683	\$3 660 195
Griffith City	NSW	23 789	1 640	1 230	\$1 480 932	\$936 144	\$2 417 076	\$62.25	\$761.09	\$933 056	\$2 405 436
Moorabool (S)	VIC	24 197	2 110	1 378	\$2 365 965	\$1 199 206	\$3 565 171	\$97.78	\$870.25	\$1 309 318	\$3 686 304
Devonport (C)	TAS	24 436	3 939	245	\$768 430	\$625 383	\$1 393 813	\$31.45	\$2 552.58	\$645 614	\$1 402 774
Armidale Dumaresq	NSW	24 656	4 235	984	\$1 850 100	\$860 060	\$2 710 160	\$75.04	\$874.04	\$857 076	\$2 813 284
Marborough	QLD	24 975	1 242	383	\$1 230 902	\$341 949	\$1 572 851	\$49.29	\$892.82	\$354 323	\$1 571 311
South Gippsland (S)	VIC	25 525	3 298	2 471	\$2 875 263	\$2 177 542	\$5 052 805	\$112.64	\$881.24	\$2 796 539	\$6 145 539
Wangaratta (RC)	VIC	25 903	3 641	2 044	\$2 372 017	\$1 324 549	\$3 696 566	\$91.57	\$648.02	\$1 380 791	\$3 882 791
Moira (S)	VIC	26 317	4 068	3 625	\$3 170 757	\$1 817 152	\$4 987 909	\$120.48	\$501.28	\$1 979 976	\$5 163 976
Kempsey Shire	NSW	27 029	3 380	1 021	\$2 369 500	\$1 050 324	\$3 419 824	\$87.67	\$1 028.72	\$1 091 436	\$3 580 504
Mitchell (S)	VIC	27 283	2 863	1 237	\$2 532 370	\$1 192 879	\$3 725 249	\$92.82	\$964.33	\$1 235 558	\$3 888 558
Gladstone	QLD	27 728	161	231	\$976 154	\$312 266	\$1 288 420	\$35.20	\$1 351.80	\$325 261	\$1 290 380
Kingborough (M)	TAS	28 442	1 099	511	\$982 767	\$777 556	\$1 760 323	\$34.55	\$1 521.64	\$782 040	\$1 795 586

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Bunbury (C)	WA	28 779	61	300	\$753 613	\$543 546	\$1 297 159	\$26.19	\$1 811.82	\$565 559	\$1 345 195	
Warrnambold (C)	VIC	28 960	121	294	\$1 927 263	\$492 731	\$2 419 994	\$66.55	\$1 675.96	\$381 408	\$2 458 408	
Bega Valley Shire	NSW	29 036	6 279	1 103	\$2 841 572	\$1 074 224	\$3 915 796	\$97.86	\$973.91	\$1 117 736	\$4 149 568	
Byron Shire	NSW	29 083	567	497	\$1 420 332	\$679 320	\$2 099 652	\$48.84	\$1 366.84	\$709 192	\$2 203 472	
Albany (C)	WA	29 873	4 804	1 566	\$1 971 046	\$1 073 837	\$3 044 883	\$65.98	\$685.72	\$1 242 562	\$3 082 304	
Queanbeyan City	NSW	30 205	52	154	\$1 485 060	\$398 924	\$1 883 984	\$49.17	\$2 590.42	\$427 620	\$2 008 200	
Alice Springs (T)	NT	30 365	320	246	\$1 167 065	\$713 703	\$1 880 768	\$38.43	\$2 901.23	\$683 298	\$1 779 203	
Urban Regional Medium (URM)												
Bathurst City	NSW	30 307	240	285	\$1 720 448	\$491 792	\$2 212 240	\$56.77	\$1 725.59	\$516 820	\$2 384 844	
Great Lakes	NSW	31 173	3 376	864	\$3 425 132	\$878 984	\$4 304 116	\$109.87	\$1 017.34	\$910 804	\$4 543 988	
Wodonga (RC)	VIC	31 885	436	398	\$2 343 778	\$666 236	\$3 010 014	\$73.51	\$1 673.96	\$599 366	\$2 830 366	
Eurobodalla Shire	NSW	31 971	3 422	882	\$3 523 524	\$888 380	\$4 411 904	\$110.21	\$1 007.23	\$923 540	\$4 636 224	
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (C)	WA	32 042	95 229	1 330	\$1 364 899	\$944 256	\$2 309 155	\$42.60	\$709.97	\$983 844	\$2 354 580	
Cooloolo	QLD	33 471	2 969	1 323	\$1 557 920	\$738 745	\$2 296 665	\$46.55	\$558.39	\$767 356	\$2 307 665	
Baw Baw (S)	VIC	35 353	4 035	1 765	\$2 955 944	\$1 735 867	\$4 691 811	\$83.61	\$983.49	\$1 901 584	\$5 215 076	
Campaspe (C)	VIC	35 574	4 526	4 475	\$3 379 518	\$2 201 863	\$5 581 381	\$95.00	\$492.04	\$2 580 237	\$6 558 237	
Tamworth City	NSW	35 684	186	335	\$2 134 528	\$575 552	\$2 710 080	\$59.82	\$1 718.07	\$595 152	\$2 870 928	
Orange City	NSW	36 137	285	373	\$1 967 512	\$598 452	\$2 565 964	\$54.45	\$1 604.43	\$625 664	\$2 703 824	
Macedon Ranges (S)	VIC	36 319	1 748	1 472	\$2 903 502	\$1 418 650	\$4 322 152	\$79.94	\$963.76	\$1 453 147	\$4 389 857	
Ballina Shire	NSW	37 074	484	548	\$1 811 236	\$724 392	\$2 535 628	\$48.85	\$1 321.88	\$758 664	\$2 746 716	
Dubbo City	NSW	37 812	3 428	1 087	\$2 843 268	\$1 022 368	\$3 865 636	\$75.19	\$940.54	\$1 067 064	\$4 085 292	
East Gippsland (S)	VIC	39 083	20 946	3 460	\$4 475 769	\$2 684 818	\$7 160 587	\$114.52	\$775.96	\$3 111 295	\$8 496 295	

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement				
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Wellington (S)	VIC	40 766	10 995	3 432	\$3 978 574	\$2 599 143	\$6 577 717	\$97.60	\$757.33	\$3 018 149	\$7 210 149
Wingecarribee Shire	NSW	41 305	2 689	967	\$2 316 228	\$1 002 016	\$3 318 244	\$56.08	\$1 036.21	\$1 049 964	\$3 509 448
Albury City	NSW	42 384	105	356	\$2 860 544	\$678 920	\$3 539 464	\$67.49	\$1 907.08	\$706 728	\$3 759 744
Lismore City	NSW	43 004	1 290	1 061	\$3 139 408	\$1 168 960	\$4 308 368	\$73.00	\$1 101.75	\$1 212 232	\$4 461 940
Hervey Bay	QLD	43 062	2 356	774	\$1 765 177	\$628 880	\$2 394 057	\$40.99	\$812.51	\$658 647	\$2 551 012
Glenorchy (C)	TAS	43 878	2 522	290	\$659 441	\$798 512	\$1 457 953	\$15.03 #	\$2 753.49	\$824 008	\$1 500 327
Greater Taree City	NSW	44 084	3 730	1 510	\$2 687 348	\$1 500 796	\$4 188 144	\$60.96	\$983.90	\$1 542 620	\$4 385 336
Bundaberg	QLD	44 304	95	354	\$1 400 909	\$493 542	\$1 894 451	\$31.62	\$1 394.19	\$510 080	\$1 895 153
Mandurah (C)	WA	45 580	179	472	\$985 746	\$561 261	\$1 247 007	\$15.04 #	\$1 189.11	\$583 981	\$1 309 236
Cessnock City	NSW	46 475	1 966	838	\$3 145 352	\$981 132	\$4 126 484	\$67.68	\$1 170.80	\$1 044 476	\$4 423 608
Mildura (RC)	VIC	48 542	22 093	5 095	\$5 025 407	\$2 032 408	\$7 057 815	\$103.53	\$398.90	\$2 268 776	\$7 459 776
Clarence (C)	TAS	48 918	381	426	\$1 232 344	\$807 864	\$2 040 208	\$25.19	\$1 896.39	\$834 171	\$2 143 445
Maitland City	NSW	54 535	392	537	\$2 981 092	\$674 892	\$3 655 984	\$54.66	\$1 256.78	\$707 416	\$3 944 368
Wagga Wagga City	NSW	55 705	4 824	1 984	\$3 565 224	\$1 827 252	\$5 392 476	\$64.00	\$920.99	\$1 891 836	\$5 714 108
Greater Shepparton (C)	VIC	56 537	2 422	2 420	\$4 656 293	\$1 944 127	\$6 600 420	\$82.36	\$803.36	\$2 006 658	\$6 730 658
Port Stephens	NSW	56 979	858	549	\$3 049 444	\$662 708	\$3 712 152	\$53.52	\$1 207.12	\$700 560	\$3 934 488
Shellharbour City	NSW	57 884	148	282	\$2 431 252	\$433 036	\$2 864 288	\$42.00	\$1 535.59	\$455 652	\$3 071 540
Rockhampton	QLD	59 153	189	490	\$1 221 292	\$664 973	\$1 886 265	\$20.65	\$1 357.09	\$683 123	\$1 890 609
Coffs Harbour City	NSW	60 463	961	622	\$3 168 796	\$1 056 424	\$4 225 220	\$52.41	\$1 698.43	\$1 102 532	\$4 480 324
Launceston (C)	TAS	62 830	992	730	\$1 681 966	\$1 640 933	\$3 322 899	\$26.77	\$2 247.85	\$1 693 744	\$3 269 207
Hastings	NSW	62 865	3 688	1 156	\$3 607 372	\$1 489 496	\$5 096 868	\$57.38	\$1 288.49	\$1 549 136	\$5 452 636
Urban Regional Large (URL)											
Latrobe (C)	VIC	69 192	1 427	1 409	\$5 825 156	\$1 836 694	\$7 661 850	\$84.19	\$1 303.54	\$1 848 424	\$7 501 424

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Tweed Shire	NSW	71 867	1 303	1 028	\$4 377 840	\$1 463 304	\$5 841 144	\$60.92	\$1 423.45	\$1 538 608	\$6 186 828	
Caloundra	QLD	72 882	1 105	1 030	\$1 102 847	\$967 218	\$2 070 065	\$15.13 #	\$939.05	\$1 013 122	\$2 166 417	
Mackay	QLD	76 924	2 895	1 480	\$1 875 570	\$1 156 977	\$3 032 547	\$24.38	\$781.74	\$1 854 368	\$3 061 639	
Ballarat (C)	VIC	81 981	740	1 217	\$6 644 067	\$1 547 860	\$8 191 927	\$81.04	\$1 271.87	\$1 481 827	\$7 674 827	
Shoalhaven City	NSW	83 591	4 568	1 441	\$6 320 428	\$1 765 468	\$8 085 896	\$75.61	\$1 225.17	\$1 840 216	\$8 506 040	
Toowoomba	QLD	87 644	117	616	\$1 349 901	\$947 087	\$2 296 988	\$15.40	\$1 537.48	\$1 363 639	\$2 344 516	
Greater Bendigo (C)	VIC	87 918	3 000	2 914	\$6 765 088	\$2 300 633	\$9 065 721	\$76.95	\$789.51	\$6 880 000	\$9 051 075	
Townsville	QLD	89 547	1 871	856	\$2 485 871	\$1 046 247	\$3 532 118	\$27.76	\$1 222.25	\$2 457 770	\$3 546	
Urban Regional Very Large (URV)												
Cairns	QLD	120 698	1 852	1 077	\$2 047 688	\$1 383 558	\$3 431 246	\$16.97	\$1 284.64	\$1 435 509	\$3 460 050	
Newcastle City	NSW	140 955	183	722	\$8 606 860	\$1 097 984	\$9 704 844	\$61.06	\$1 520.75	\$1 140 488	\$10 211 520	
Lake Macquarie City	NSW	184 346	644	1 205	\$9 149 368	\$1 650 648	\$10 800 016	\$49.63	\$1 369.83	\$1 711 236	\$11 354 708	
Wollongong City	NSW	187 003	684	874	\$9 683 100	\$1 353 484	\$11 036 584	\$51.78	\$1 548.61	\$1 410 512	\$11 703 864	
Greater Geelong (C)	VIC	191 018	1 248	1 915	\$10 878 800	\$2 616 572	\$13 495 372	\$56.95	\$1 366.36	\$2 272 063	\$13 636 189	
Gold Coast	QLD	405 392	1 404	2 764	\$6 134 372	\$4 351 398	\$10 485 770	\$15.13 #	\$1 574.31	\$4 593 709	\$11 057	
Urban Fringe Small (UFS)												
Cawler (M)	SA	17 803	41	168	\$597 682	\$223 864	\$821 546	\$33.57	\$1 332.52	\$291 507	\$969 360	
West Tamar (M)	TAS	20 001	689	449	\$1 089 914	\$612 436	\$1 702 350	\$54.49	\$1 364.00	\$637 180	\$1 819 063	
Johnstone	QLD	20 418	1 640	641	\$1 121 052	\$393 244	\$1 514 296	\$54.91	\$613.49	\$407 762	\$1 516 141	
Kwinana (T)	WA	21 553	118	285	\$325 598	\$343 532	\$669 130	\$15.11	\$1 205.38	\$364 544	\$722 000	
Palmerston (T)	NT	21 638	56	150	\$883 797	\$413 469	\$1 245 266	\$38.44	\$2 756.46	\$773 952	\$1 181 094	
Bass Coast (S)	VIC	23 175	865	1 070	\$2 203 595	\$902 039	\$3 105 634	\$95.09	\$843.03	\$900 495	\$3 202 495	
Burnett	QLD	23 456	2 004	1 275	\$734 164	\$638 315	\$1 372 479	\$31.30	\$500.64	\$725 865	\$1 390 981	

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Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	Total road length	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement		
					General purpose	Roads	Total grant	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Livingstone	QLD	25 508	11 782	1 369	\$1 490 312	\$688 076	\$2 178 388	\$1 473 465	\$718 039	\$2 191
Urban Fringe Medium (UFM)										
Mundaring (S)	WA	35 015	644	633	\$1 952 715	\$625 024	\$2 577 739	\$2 062 035	\$710 148	\$2 772 183
Wollondilly Shire	NSW	36 286	2 557	679	\$1 621 552	\$788 724	\$2 410 276	\$1 638 496	\$825 164	\$2 463 660
Adelaide Hills	SA	37 914	795	1 102	\$959 777	\$474 546	\$1 434 323	\$836 777	\$473 092	\$1 309 869
Camden	NSW	42 542	201	312	\$1 472 744	\$432 220	\$1 904 964	\$1 546 084	\$470 680	\$2 016 764
Noosa	QLD	42 922	868	753	\$700 243	\$620 290	\$1 320 533	\$692 327	\$649 416	\$1 341 743
Cardinia (S)	VIC	45 834	1 282	1 268	\$3 196 978	\$1 366 103	\$4 563 081	\$3 303 000	\$1 480 727	\$4 783 727
Kalamunda (S)	WA	49 479	349	559	\$1 343 865	\$624 297	\$1 968 162	\$1 353 398	\$649 255	\$2 002 653
Melton (S)	VIC	50 454	528	512	\$3 096 127	\$556 650	\$3 652 777	\$3 489 000	\$556 068	\$4 045 068
Thuringowa	QLD	51 248	1 866	515	\$1 156 864	\$607 578	\$1 764 442	\$1 143 787	\$638 556	\$1 782 343
Beaudesert	QLD	52 603	2 855	1 526	\$795 986	\$969 287	\$1 765 273	\$829 237	\$1 011 289	\$1 840 526
Armadale (C)	WA	53 382	545	571	\$1 905 524	\$621 077	\$2 526 601	\$1 989 038	\$745 710	\$2 734 748
Nullumbik (S)	VIC	60 157	433	728	\$1 975 672	\$754 210	\$2 729 882	\$2 210 000	\$849 697	\$3 059 697
Hawkesbury City	NSW	62 485	2 776	879	\$2 617 820	\$1 065 484	\$3 683 304	\$2 745 340	\$1 113 392	\$3 858 732
Playford (C)	SA	67 466	345	736	\$5 613 484	\$659 720	\$6 273 204	\$6 256 363	\$689 295	\$6 945 658
Cockburn (C)	WA	68 173	138	605	\$1 025 656	\$746 452	\$1 772 108	\$1 080 984	\$775 103	\$1 856 087
Rockingham (C)	WA	70 752	261	702	\$1 064 456	\$840 388	\$1 904 844	\$1 117 827	\$872 506	\$1 990 333
Urban Fringe Large (UFL)										
Blue Mountains City	NSW	76 541	1 432	739	\$5 015 616	\$897 096	\$5 912 712	\$5 134 192	\$903 920	\$6 038 112
Wanneroo (C)	WA	78 731	688	750	\$1 237 767	\$967 147	\$2 204 914	\$1 263 486	\$1 003 976	\$2 267 462
Swan (S)	WA	82 371	1 029	1 154	\$1 239 263	\$1 254 520	\$2 493 783	\$1 312 075	\$1 423 006	\$2 735 081

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	Total road length	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement		
					General purpose	Roads	Total grant	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Gosnells (C)	WA	83 380	127	605	\$1 294 052	\$814 985	\$2 109 037	\$1 310 393	\$889 249	\$2 199 642
Wyndham (C)	VIC	86 107	542	651	\$5 220 050	\$743 321	\$5 963 371	\$4 866 000	\$716 712	\$5 582 712
Cabootture	QLD	112 118	1 230	1 500	\$1 696 564	\$1 458 415	\$3 154 979	\$1 747 921	\$1 513 262	\$3 261 183
Redland	QLD	115 011	537	845	\$1 740 341	\$1 255 499	\$2 995 840	\$1 828 936	\$1 322 322	\$3 151 258
Whittlesea (C)	VIC	115 843	490	628	\$5 749 518	\$815 459	\$6 564 977	\$5 461 000	\$801 326	\$6 262 326
Pine Rivers	QLD	116 853	774	1 103	\$1 768 214	\$1 360 423	\$3 128 637	\$1 853 758	\$1 429 153	\$3 282 911
Mornington Peninsula (S)	VIC	127 254	724	1 619	\$3 207 063	\$2 596 349	\$5 803 412	\$4 134 000	\$2 173 318	\$6 307 318
Urban Fringe Very Large (UFV)										
Maroochy	QLD	121 650	1 164	1 247	\$1 840 802	\$1 450 493	\$3 291 295	\$1 931 529	\$1 524 316	\$3 455 845
Ipwich	QLD	127 465	1 205	1 381	\$3 326 913	\$1 545 617	\$4 872 530	\$3 289 305	\$1 603 608	\$4 892 913
Wyong Shire	NSW	132 417	745	951	\$6 200 336	\$1 281 348	\$7 481 684	\$6 609 560	\$1 352 508	\$7 962 068
Hume (C)	VIC	133 275	504	828	\$5 814 063	\$1 026 716	\$6 840 779	\$5 420 000	\$1 013 376	\$6 433 376
Baulkham Hills Shire	NSW	136 568	401	725	\$2 077 716	\$1 027 536	\$3 105 252	\$2 258 052	\$1 084 284	\$3 342 336
Yarra Ranges (S)	VIC	143 065	2 472	1 739	\$7 135 211	\$2 241 757	\$9 376 968	\$7 965 000	\$2 420 912	\$10 385 912
Onkaparinga (DC)	SA	147 628	520	1 393	\$5 915 787	\$1 523 182	\$7 438 969	\$6 195 373	\$1 683 379	\$7 878 752
Liverpool City	NSW	149 257	305	715	\$5 083 268	\$1 097 176	\$6 180 444	\$5 210 004	\$1 158 216	\$6 368 220
Campbelltown City	NSW	149 990	312	579	\$6 951 064	\$982 904	\$7 933 968	\$7 027 308	\$1 032 100	\$8 059 408
Hornsby Shire	NSW	150 029	462	600	\$2 282 508	\$948 380	\$3 230 888	\$2 362 196	\$981 312	\$3 343 508
Joondalup (C)	WA	157 431	103	931	\$2 368 533	\$1 272 276	\$3 640 809	\$2 456 033	\$1 321 469	\$3 777 502
Gosford City	NSW	160 167	940	1 036	\$6 242 164	\$1 431 404	\$7 673 568	\$6 448 864	\$1 488 612	\$7 937 476
Penrith City	NSW	174 745	405	925	\$6 897 728	\$1 341 696	\$8 239 424	\$7 189 296	\$1 397 816	\$8 587 112
Casey (C)	VIC	174 911	410	1 069	\$7 544 667	\$1 218 826	\$8 763 493	\$8 916 000	\$1 210 256	\$10 126 256

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Rural Significant Growth (RSG)												
Capel (S)	WA	6 685	554	417	\$520 765	\$361 379	\$882 144	\$77.90	\$866.62	\$513 330	\$304 503	\$817 833
Dardanup (S)	WA	9 242	518	344	\$552 723	\$282 035	\$834 758	\$59.81	\$819.87	\$637 682	\$258 065	\$895 747
Crow's Nest	QLD	9 950	1 630	946	\$772 301	\$411 324	\$1 183 625	\$77.62	\$434.80	\$763 571	\$428 258	\$1 191 829
Augusta-Margaret River (S)	WA	9 953	2 370	863	\$460 753	\$733 513	\$1 194 266	\$46.29	\$849.96	\$389 486	\$552 965	\$942 451
Murray (S)	WA	10 354	1 813	725	\$827 780	\$594 955	\$1 422 735	\$79.95	\$820.63	\$896 718	\$555 104	\$1 451 822
Douglas	QLD	10 584	2 455	363	\$362 248	\$214 591	\$576 839	\$34.23	\$591.16	\$388 349	\$224 283	\$612 632
Serpentine-Jarrahdale (S)	WA	11 482	905	622	\$884 057	\$549 450	\$1 433 507	\$77.00	\$883.36	\$1 021 051	\$602 591	\$1 623 642
Greenough (S)	WA	11 942	1 748	655	\$777 215	\$407 313	\$1 184 528	\$85.08	\$621.85	\$844 334	\$394 345	\$1 238 679
Laidley	QLD	12 939	701	605	\$333 354	\$318 166	\$651 520	\$25.76	\$525.89	\$329 586	\$329 308	\$658 894
Whitsunday	QLD	15 466	2 693	544	\$350 009	\$318 206	\$668 215	\$22.63	\$584.94	\$346 052	\$332 773	\$678 825
Harvey (S)	WA	18 845	1 766	764	\$826 445	\$515 757	\$1 342 202	\$43.85	\$675.07	\$863 769	\$621 349	\$1 485 118
Surf Coast (S)	VIC	19 935	1 554	986	\$1 023 638	\$854 293	\$1 877 931	\$51.35	\$866.42	\$1 354 000	\$902 572	\$2 256 572
Busselton (S)	WA	22 751	1 454	955	\$353 420	\$749 829	\$1 103 249	\$15.53	\$785.16	\$365 823	\$1 160 198	\$1 526
Rural Agricultural Small (RAS)												
Nungarin (S)	WA	259	1 145	519	\$314 164	\$191 939	\$506 103	\$1 212.99	\$369.82	\$350 506	\$202 454	\$552 960
Westonia (S)	WA	299	3 268	857	\$301 958	\$315 603	\$617 561	\$1 009.89	\$368.26	\$307 639	\$328 982	\$636 621
Perry	QLD	350	2 359	358	\$932 583	\$126 860	\$1 059 443	\$2 684.52	\$354.36	\$999 780	\$132 167	\$1 131 947
Wandering (S)	WA	359	1 955	355	\$129 785	\$164 534	\$294 319	\$361.52	\$463.48	\$138 064	\$138 894	\$276 958
Woodanilling (S)	WA	388	1 126	515	\$212 902	\$228 295	\$441 197	\$548.72	\$443.29	\$234 341	\$203 054	\$437 395
Tammin (S)	WA	412	1 087	512	\$298 288	\$198 079	\$496 367	\$724.00	\$386.87	\$336 682	\$200 315	\$536 997
Trayning (S)	WA	500	1 632	740	\$421 152	\$299 616	\$720 768	\$842.30	\$404.89	\$449 919	\$307 706	\$757 625
Broomehill (S)	WA	550	1 376	461	\$200 812	\$215 743	\$416 555	\$365.11	\$467.99	\$191 345	\$195 644	\$386 989

(# = Minimum Grant)

Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement				
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Koorda (S)	WA	591	2 662	1 079	\$481 568	\$409 817	\$891 385	\$814.84	\$379.81	\$432 184	\$986 507
Mingenew (S)	WA	610	1 927	467	\$206 363	\$197 996	\$404 359	\$338.30	\$423.97	\$237 887	\$449 834
Perenjori (S)	WA	618	8 214	1 436	\$393 763	\$461 567	\$855 330	\$637.16	\$321.43	\$481 128	\$902 972
Wyalkatchem (S)	WA	646	1 743	732	\$366 090	\$284 416	\$650 506	\$566.70	\$388.55	\$296 303	\$692 437
Tambellup (S)	WA	705	1 437	508	\$258 958	\$210 954	\$469 912	\$367.32	\$415.26	\$215 136	\$478 260
Mukinbudin (S)	WA	711	3 414	912	\$354 688	\$332 615	\$687 303	\$498.86	\$364.71	\$348 668	\$727 862
Mount Marshall (S)	WA	723	10 134	1 725	\$519 811	\$579 424	\$1 099 235	\$718.96	\$335.90	\$608 770	\$1 152 146
Kent (S)	WA	744	6 552	1 310	\$209 405	\$405 592	\$614 997	\$281.46	\$309.61	\$420 067	\$617 907
Cuballing (S)	WA	750	1 250	564	\$298 667	\$306 448	\$605 115	\$398.22	\$543.35	\$304 133	\$598 744
Three Springs (S)	WA	788	2 629	698	\$297 636	\$300 948	\$598 584	\$377.71	\$431.16	\$284 448	\$600 304
Dowerin (S)	WA	800	1 867	940	\$417 556	\$357 853	\$775 409	\$521.95	\$380.69	\$364 047	\$814 274
Wickepin (S)	WA	848	1 989	870	\$354 969	\$334 327	\$689 296	\$418.60	\$384.28	\$342 354	\$721 008
Dumbleyung (S)	WA	856	2 553	985	\$371 012	\$370 957	\$741 969	\$483.43	\$376.61	\$452 139	\$852 850
Narrogin (S)	WA	861	1 618	736	\$289 660	\$303 282	\$592 942	\$336.42	\$412.07	\$329 151	\$612 525
Camamah (S)	WA	896	2 834	642	\$410 562	\$254 471	\$665 033	\$458.22	\$396.37	\$262 247	\$688 311
Eidsvold	QLD	903	4 809	1 083	\$1 289 896	\$383 023	\$1 672 919	\$1 428.46	\$353.67	\$397 852	\$1 780 691
Waroo	QLD	906	13 661	1 370	\$2 009 098	\$482 609	\$2 491 707	\$2 217.55	\$352.27	\$501 383	\$2 487 770
Kulin (S)	WA	913	4 790	1 447	\$303 045	\$521 440	\$824 485	\$331.92	\$360.36	\$537 276	\$823 585
West Arthur (S)	WA	943	2 850	842	\$118 849	\$621 987	\$740 836	\$126.03	\$738.70	\$324 876	\$429 609
Flinders (M)	TAS	944	3 556	386	\$420 274	\$389 731	\$810 005	\$445.21	\$1 009.67	\$402 690	\$849 454
Bendemeere	QLD	960	3 928	710	\$1 614 879	\$254 336	\$1 869 215	\$1 682.17	\$358.22	\$264 209	\$1 860 833
Chapman Valley (S)	WA	995	4 007	927	\$219 470	\$337 430	\$556 900	\$220.57	\$364.00	\$207 349	\$558 906
Williams (S)	WA	1 000	2 295	502	\$48 749	\$190 575	\$239 324	\$48.75	\$379.63	\$41 209	\$238 569
Goonalling (S)	WA	1 018	1 845	590	\$219 239	\$247 826	\$467 065	\$215.36	\$420.04	\$207 527	\$646 950

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Victoria Plains (S)	WA	1 029	2 563	791	\$160 558	\$291 637	\$452 195	\$156.03	\$368.69	\$415 067	\$567 620
Narembeen (S)	WA	1 036	3 821	1 414	\$428 212	\$507 689	\$935 901	\$413.33	\$359.04	\$526 508	\$958 547
Brookton (S)	WA	1 046	1 626	538	\$267 874	\$211 818	\$479 692	\$256.09	\$393.71	\$287 924	\$574 835
Morawa (S)	WA	1 048	3 528	944	\$438 729	\$361 551	\$800 280	\$418.63	\$383.00	\$373 026	\$836 562
Orroroo/Carrington (DC)	SA	1 082	3 313	1 629	\$370 581	\$160 127	\$530 708	\$339.36	\$98.30	\$166 355	\$566 410
Cranbrook (S)	WA	1 119	3 390	1 016	\$251 998	\$385 539	\$637 537	\$225.20	\$379.47	\$420 246	\$666 184
Bruce Rock (S)	WA	1 165	2 772	1 180	\$623 655	\$596 435	\$1 220 090	\$535.33	\$505.45	\$644 393	\$1 194 288
Pingelly (S)	WA	1 170	1 223	575	\$348 882	\$267 580	\$616 462	\$298.19	\$465.36	\$265 789	\$617 134
Mullewa (S)	WA	1 176	10 707	1 323	\$233 644	\$394 311	\$627 955	\$198.68	\$298.04	\$413 607	\$657 031
Kondinin (S)	WA	1 186	7 340	1 312	\$332 967	\$430 604	\$763 571	\$280.75	\$328.20	\$448 699	\$777 568
Corrigin (S)	WA	1 210	3 095	1 099	\$461 846	\$452 629	\$914 475	\$381.69	\$411.86	\$465 900	\$936 827
Quairading (S)	WA	1 214	1 629	889	\$477 784	\$418 587	\$896 371	\$393.56	\$470.85	\$403 171	\$913 115
Elliston (DC)	SA	1 233	6 693	1 164	\$355 280	\$211 569	\$566 829	\$288.13	\$181.76	\$222 147	\$595 257
Franklin Harbour (DC)	SA	1 241	3 283	943	\$425 578	\$142 709	\$569 287	\$343.74	\$151.34	\$149 844	\$604 029
Nannup (S)	WA	1 247	2 953	449	\$385 921	\$380 927	\$766 848	\$309.48	\$848.39	\$334 094	\$724 622
Kimba (DC)	SA	1 249	3 975	1 697	\$399 234	\$637 785	\$1 037 019	\$319.64	\$375.83	\$515 127	\$958 276
Kellerberrin (S)	WA	1 257	1 852	930	\$528 709	\$397 958	\$926 667	\$420.61	\$427.91	\$416 642	\$952 848
Jeramungup (S)	WA	1 295	6 540	1 091	\$265 292	\$370 684	\$635 976	\$204.86	\$339.77	\$386 418	\$637 059
Karoonda-East Murray (DC)	SA	1 326	441 817	1 289	\$459 144	\$368 862	\$827 006	\$345.51	\$286.16	\$372 220	\$907 232
Nindale Shire	NSW	1 359	1 601	283	\$255 468	\$196 976	\$452 444	\$187.98	\$696.03	\$204 312	\$460 628
Cunderdin (S)	WA	1 378	1 872	803	\$462 073	\$358 751	\$820 824	\$335.32	\$446.76	\$362 145	\$840 956
Robe (DC)	SA	1 422	1 101	436	\$72 828	\$67 944	\$140 772	\$51.22	\$155.83	\$70 628	\$131 456
Ravensthorpe (S)	WA	1 474	12 872	1 321	\$338 101	\$422 650	\$758 751	\$228.02	\$319.95	\$440 125	\$782 682
Biggenden	QLD	1 510	1 316	497	\$1 270 950	\$184 892	\$1 455 842	\$841.69	\$372.02	\$191 885	\$1 448 468

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Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Urana Shire	NSW	1 510	3 357	881	\$736 964	\$520 040	\$1 257 004	\$488.06	\$590.28	\$761 460	\$539 992	\$1 301 452
Coorow (S)	WA	1 516	4 137	869	\$380 083	\$344 933	\$725 016	\$250.71	\$396.93	\$383 241	\$359 340	\$742 581
Le Hunte (DC)	SA	1 531	5 381	1 811	\$709 031	\$256 748	\$965 779	\$463.12	\$141.77	\$809 150	\$266 992	\$1 076 142
Wongan-Ballidu (S)	WA	1 539	3 350	1 298	\$497 720	\$533 717	\$1 031 437	\$323.40	\$411.18	\$514 967	\$536 479	\$1 051 446
Beverley (S)	WA	1 616	2 310	681	\$321 961	\$584 510	\$906 471	\$199.23	\$858.31	\$308 062	\$403 233	\$711 295
Boddington (S)	WA	1 628	1 932	247	\$202 391	\$112 344	\$314 735	\$124.32	\$454.83	\$211 132	\$117 181	\$328 313
Boypup Brook (S)	WA	1 646	2 838	1 048	\$257 809	\$432 936	\$690 745	\$156.63	\$413.11	\$225 742	\$428 780	\$654 522
Gnowangerup (S)	WA	1 646	5 000	978	\$303 988	\$377 858	\$681 846	\$184.68	\$386.36	\$270 912	\$393 902	\$664 814
Dalwallinu (S)	WA	1 756	7 187	1 902	\$647 430	\$729 808	\$1 377 238	\$368.70	\$383.71	\$633 820	\$759 152	\$1 392 972
King Island (M)	TAS	1 775	1 158	421	\$373 658	\$428 577	\$802 235	\$210.51	\$1 018.00	\$394 071	\$443 090	\$837 161
Conargo Shire	NSW	1 779	8 751	1 284	\$837 632	\$747 376	\$1 585 008	\$470.84	\$582.07	\$861 952	\$776 188	\$1 638 140
Lake Grace (S)	WA	1 801	9 245	2 220	\$353 243	\$734 494	\$1 087 737	\$196.14	\$330.85	\$333 735	\$760 729	\$1 094 464
Booniga	QLD	1 806	27 827	2 113	\$1 867 633	\$747 638	\$2 615 271	\$1 034.13	\$353.83	\$1 846 521	\$776 626	\$2 623 147
Flinders Ranges	SA	1 807	4 115	1 245	\$579 443	\$191 895	\$771 338	\$320.67	\$154.13	\$602 481	\$191 570	\$794 051
Jerilderie Shire	NSW	1 854	3 375	996	\$754 112	\$589 688	\$1 343 800	\$406.75	\$592.06	\$766 328	\$613 452	\$1 379 780
Cleve (DC)	SA	1 899	4 498	1 488	\$545 982	\$212 416	\$758 408	\$287.52	\$142.75	\$571 813	\$221 780	\$793 593
Bungil	QLD	1 903	13 337	1 711	\$2 222 464	\$609 198	\$2 831 662	\$1 167.87	\$356.05	\$2 382 602	\$632 878	\$3 015 480
Wagin (S)	WA	1 949	1 950	786	\$400 827	\$415 469	\$816 296	\$205.66	\$528.59	\$419 395	\$336 885	\$756 280
Streaky Bay (DC)	SA	1 958	6 251	1 730	\$660 677	\$261 644	\$922 321	\$337.42	\$151.24	\$681 974	\$274 204	\$956 178
Bingara Shire	NSW	1 982	2 854	521	\$500 956	\$335 316	\$836 272	\$252.75	\$643.60	\$514 684	\$344 716	\$859 400
Rural Agricultural Medium (RAM)												
Nebo	QLD	986	10 036	527	\$1 013 929	\$200 556	\$1 214 485	\$1 028.33	\$380.56	\$1 086 987	\$198 255	\$1 285 242
Peak Downs	QLD	1 461	8 127	900	\$1 816 319	\$336 532	\$2 152 851	\$1 243.20	\$373.92	\$1 947 193	\$336 774	\$2 283 967

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Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	
Peterborough (DC)	SA	2 060	3 013	1 228	\$716 290	\$156 526	\$872 816	\$347.71	\$127.46	\$753 963	\$162 421	\$916 384
Murrumbidgee Shire	NSW	2 144	2 481	475	\$352 364	\$331 524	\$683 888	\$164.35	\$697.95	\$359 680	\$343 776	\$703 456
Bathurst	QLD	2 166	23 645	1 476	\$1 499 785	\$329 900	\$2 029 685	\$692.42	\$359.01	\$1 607 851	\$550 471	\$2 158 322
Barraba Shire	NSW	2 169	3 069	711	\$680 488	\$453 400	\$1 133 888	\$313.73	\$637.69	\$657 612	\$453 256	\$1 110 868
Brewarrina Shire	NSW	2 184	19 189	1 264	\$1 131 240	\$750 728	\$1 881 968	\$517.97	\$593.93	\$1 146 088	\$779 924	\$1 926 012
Yilgarn (S)	WA	2 215	30 720	2 720	\$403 952	\$738 155	\$1 142 107	\$182.37	\$271.38	\$341 470	\$772 723	\$1 114 193
Merrima Shire	NSW	2 216	3 500	548	\$437 744	\$334 360	\$772 104	\$197.54	\$610.15	\$443 008	\$347 008	\$790 016
Tasman (M)	TAS	2 235	660	207	\$279 308	\$233 068	\$512 376	\$124.97	\$1125.93	\$277 721	\$244 019	\$521 740
Gunning Shire	NSW	2 264	2 210	543	\$461 292	\$362 488	\$823 780	\$203.75	\$667.57	\$488 232	\$397 204	\$885 436
Southern Mallee (DC)	SA	2 282	5 715	1 330	\$588 667	\$239 765	\$828 432	\$257.96	\$180.27	\$649 881	\$250 088	\$899 969
Kojoonup (S)	WA	2 295	2 937	1 130	\$303 483	\$500 396	\$803 879	\$132.24	\$442.83	\$299 139	\$502 240	\$801 379
Clifton	QLD	2 376	867	635	\$1 246 637	\$240 153	\$1 486 790	\$524.68	\$378.19	\$1 336 463	\$249 233	\$1 585 696
Boorowa	NSW	2 418	2 578	757	\$505 228	\$458 716	\$963 944	\$208.94	\$605.97	\$511 288	\$476 332	\$987 620
Kingston (DC)	SA	2 448	3 363	737	\$222 425	\$152 696	\$375 121	\$90.86	\$207.19	\$266 910	\$159 183	\$426 093
Mundubbera	QLD	2 469	4 193	767	\$1 012 374	\$286 691	\$1 299 065	\$410.03	\$373.78	\$1 085 320	\$297 817	\$1 383 137
Central Highlands (M)	TAS	2 496	8 010	741	\$573 316	\$846 620	\$1 419 936	\$229.69	\$1 142.54	\$552 110	\$873 241	\$1 425 351
Barunga West (DC)	SA	2 499	1 583	1 043	\$275 857	\$130 901	\$406 758	\$110.39	\$125.50	\$248 272	\$135 875	\$384 147
Moora (S)	WA	2 524	3 788	938	\$319 153	\$452 748	\$771 901	\$126.45	\$482.67	\$332 401	\$433 772	\$766 173
Holbrook Shire	NSW	2 528	2 598	431	\$505 428	\$301 352	\$806 780	\$199.93	\$699.19	\$516 888	\$312 288	\$829 176
Taroom	QLD	2 547	18 646	1 977	\$2 661 905	\$706 729	\$3 368 634	\$1 045.11	\$357.48	\$2 631 814	\$733 824	\$3 365 638
Talaganda Shire	NSW	2 629	3 322	602	\$588 212	\$397 960	\$986 172	\$223.74	\$661.06	\$595 132	\$413 188	\$1 008 320
Murrilla	QLD	2 662	6 074	1 164	\$1 369 319	\$425 756	\$1 795 075	\$514.39	\$365.77	\$1 467 984	\$441 833	\$1 909 817
Inglewood	QLD	2 668	5 880	949	\$1 052 819	\$351 378	\$1 404 197	\$394.61	\$370.26	\$1 128 679	\$364 789	\$1 493 468
Monto	QLD	2 669	4 322	1 021	\$1 482 302	\$376 416	\$1 858 718	\$555.38	\$368.67	\$1 589 108	\$390 661	\$1 979 769

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Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Murrumbidgee Shire	NSW	2 679	3 505	588	\$615 316	\$356 456	\$971 772	\$229.68	\$606.22	\$370 444	\$998 732
Tumby Bay (DC)	SA	2 688	2 674	1 095	\$300 537	\$157 219	\$457 756	\$111.81	\$143.58	\$163 934	\$457 891
Mount Morgan	QLD	2 695	492	178	\$880 068	\$84 124	\$964 192	\$326.56	\$472.61	\$87 020	\$1 030 501
Wagamba	QLD	2 709	13 405	1 524	\$1 682 439	\$551 154	\$2 233 593	\$621.06	\$361.65	\$572 864	\$2 376 530
Gayndah	QLD	2 722	2 709	680	\$1 033 860	\$258 649	\$1 292 509	\$379.82	\$380.37	\$268 445	\$1 376 799
Bombala	NSW	2 755	3 944	628	\$667 948	\$420 436	\$1 088 384	\$242.45	\$669.48	\$435 860	\$1 109 400
Chittering (S)	WA	2 779	1 188	363	\$301 541	\$211 366	\$512 907	\$108.51	\$582.28	\$242 201	\$544 368
Millmerran	QLD	2 865	4 521	1 139	\$612 026	\$418 754	\$1 030 780	\$213.62	\$367.65	\$435 413	\$1 091 539
Bairnald Shire	NSW	2 871	21 681	1 272	\$1 078 000	\$737 532	\$1 815 532	\$375.48	\$579.82	\$765 684	\$1 861 372
Severn Shire	NSW	2 879	5 575	979	\$655 068	\$674 692	\$1 329 760	\$227.53	\$689.16	\$700 216	\$1 380 296
Dardanagan (S)	WA	3 049	6 934	1 196	\$340 957	\$515 108	\$856 065	\$111.83	\$430.69	\$547 424	\$886 996
Woooco	QLD	3 066	2 006	552	\$1 064 722	\$217 156	\$1 281 878	\$347.27	\$393.40	\$225 411	\$1 366 851
York (S)	WA	3 070	2 010	658	\$392 840	\$444 530	\$837 370	\$127.96	\$675.58	\$469 921	\$839 573
Mount Remarkable (DC)	SA	3 088	3 415	2 075	\$751 925	\$233 069	\$984 994	\$243.50	\$112.32	\$232 998	\$1 013 861
Yallaroi Shire	NSW	3 099	5 340	1 288	\$833 744	\$766 180	\$1 599 924	\$269.04	\$594.86	\$829 448	\$1 624 960
Carrathool Shire	NSW	3 114	18 940	2 325	\$1 660 384	\$1 351 752	\$3 012 136	\$583.20	\$581.40	\$1 404 088	\$3 107 948
Northampton (S)	WA	3 123	13 513	1 050	\$449 605	\$443 720	\$893 325	\$143.97	\$422.59	\$445 631	\$894 188
Irwin (S)	WA	3 141	2 223	388	\$310 826	\$168 728	\$479 554	\$98.96	\$434.87	\$329 525	\$505 633
Kilcoy	QLD	3 193	1 445	446	\$704 867	\$181 439	\$886 306	\$220.75	\$406.81	\$188 195	\$943 851
Walcha	NSW	3 201	6 267	766	\$518 896	\$511 876	\$1 030 772	\$162.10	\$668.25	\$531 408	\$1 084 236
Bogan Shire	NSW	3 219	14 611	1 410	\$1 188 176	\$852 664	\$2 040 840	\$369.11	\$604.73	\$885 028	\$2 091 768
Manilla Shire	NSW	3 256	2 193	558	\$588 756	\$387 416	\$976 172	\$180.82	\$694.29	\$401 720	\$998 680
Kilkivan	QLD	3 272	3 264	740	\$952 449	\$283 809	\$1 236 258	\$291.09	\$383.53	\$1 021 077	\$1 315 793
Warren Shire	NSW	3 311	10 760	956	\$839 896	\$599 744	\$1 439 640	\$253.67	\$627.35	\$622 436	\$1 455 184

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Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Lockhart Shire	NSW	3 405	2 895	1 482	\$1 264 640	\$926 488	\$2 191 128	\$371.41	\$625.16	\$963 308	\$2 283 176
Northam (S)	WA	3 408	1 419	612	\$533 988	\$448 828	\$982 816	\$156.69	\$733.38	\$403 584	\$955 104
Warroona (S)	WA	3 411	835	336	\$390 075	\$245 563	\$635 638	\$114.36	\$730.84	\$255 939	\$668 910
Murgon	QLD	3 418	695	369	\$955 639	\$156 560	\$1 112 199	\$279.59	\$424.28	\$162 395	\$1 186 892
Dalympole	QLD	3 465	68 362	3 334	\$2 248 866	\$1 184 862	\$3 433 728	\$649.02	\$355.39	\$2 410 907	\$3 642 021
Tara	QLD	3 504	11 680	1 777	\$2 648 465	\$645 478	\$3 293 943	\$755.84	\$363.24	\$2 839 298	\$3 509 536
Tumbarumba Shire	NSW	3 566	4 371	471	\$721 884	\$341 568	\$1 063 452	\$202.44	\$725.20	\$739 908	\$1 093 872
Ceduna (DC)	SA	3 581	5 445	1 691	\$1 129 182	\$247 786	\$1 376 968	\$315.33	\$146.53	\$1 199 466	\$1 459 641
Weddin Shire	NSW	3 596	3 410	968	\$942 828	\$586 452	\$1 529 280	\$282.19	\$605.84	\$963 584	\$1 572 372
Hay Shire	NSW	3 621	11 328	765	\$1 012 484	\$467 368	\$1 479 852	\$279.61	\$610.94	\$1 036 768	\$1 521 976
Bourke Shire	NSW	3 671	41 681	1 882	\$1 728 228	\$1 106 072	\$2 834 300	\$470.78	\$587.71	\$1 750 712	\$2 900 952
Rylstone Shire	NSW	3 674	3 826	576	\$717 176	\$395 852	\$1 113 028	\$195.20	\$687.24	\$727 548	\$1 138 092
Gundagai Shire	NSW	3 725	2 458	673	\$800 396	\$468 780	\$1 069 176	\$161.18	\$696.55	\$614 512	\$1 102 104
Harden Shire	NSW	3 742	1 869	899	\$974 372	\$562 444	\$1 536 816	\$260.39	\$625.63	\$1 011 176	\$1 594 736
Coolah Shire	NSW	3 745	4 804	968	\$994 280	\$608 656	\$1 602 936	\$265.50	\$628.78	\$1 026 568	\$1 659 532
Merredin (S)	WA	3 769	3 372	1 277	\$698 714	\$519 350	\$1 218 064	\$185.38	\$406.70	\$721 156	\$1 261 325
Toodyay (S)	WA	3 834	1 683	624	\$528 387	\$620 009	\$1 148 396	\$137.82	\$993.60	\$533 876	\$926 826
Yankalilla (DC)	SA	3 921	761	525	\$85 406	\$83 510	\$168 916	\$21.78	\$159.07	\$73 407	\$160 884
Coolamon Shire	NSW	3 930	2 432	1 275	\$1 188 808	\$751 224	\$1 940 032	\$302.50	\$589.20	\$1 234 964	\$2 015 400
Culcairn Shire	NSW	3 999	1 598	800	\$892 916	\$499 100	\$1 392 016	\$223.28	\$623.88	\$909 276	\$1 427 472
Gingin (S)	WA	3 999	3 325	783	\$267 115	\$506 184	\$773 299	\$66.80	\$646.47	\$299 999	\$863 214
Wondai	QLD	4 000	3 578	953	\$1 468 761	\$363 984	\$1 832 745	\$367.19	\$381.93	\$1 574 592	\$1 952 466
Bridgetown-Greenbushes (S)	WA	4 091	1 691	715	\$615 998	\$488 500	\$1 104 498	\$150.57	\$683.22	\$614 614	\$1 243 388
Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	SA	4 092	4 763	1 333	\$355 396	\$225 812	\$581 208	\$86.85	\$169.40	\$319 856	\$556 719

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Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Copmanhurst Shire	NSW	4 128	3 166	505	\$754 764	\$424 044	\$1 178 808	\$182.84	\$839.69	\$440 804	\$758 376	\$1 199 180
Glamorgan - Spring Bay (M)	TAS	4 220	654	349	\$440 057	\$477 443	\$917 500	\$104.28	\$1 368.03	\$503 295	\$477 190	\$980 485
Guyra Shire	NSW	4 221	4 408	864	\$813 768	\$554 776	\$1 368 544	\$192.79	\$642.10	\$575 892	\$853 856	\$1 429 748
Crookwell Shire	NSW	4 252	3 613	880	\$686 884	\$569 248	\$1 256 132	\$161.54	\$646.87	\$591 736	\$706 180	\$1 297 916
Kangaroo Island	SA	4 409	4 443	1 359	\$820 154	\$236 054	\$1 056 208	\$186.02	\$173.70	\$246 418	\$960 517	\$1 206 935
Pittsworth	QLD	4 426	1 089	611	\$418 149	\$248 923	\$667 072	\$94.48	\$407.40	\$258 312	\$448 278	\$706 590
Katanning (S)	WA	4 435	1 523	701	\$737 619	\$357 802	\$1 095 421	\$166.32	\$510.42	\$359 758	\$754 461	\$1 114 219
Coylder (RC)	SA	4 437	670	3 236	\$1 123 537	\$410 933	\$1 534 470	\$253.22	\$126.99	\$427 985	\$1 183 194	\$1 611 179
Plantagenet (S)	WA	4 469	4 792	1 314	\$295 191	\$530 377	\$825 568	\$86.05	\$403.64	\$551 114	\$283 214	\$834 328
Donnybrook-Balingup (S)	WA	4 510	1 541	656	\$590 428	\$855 452	\$1 445 880	\$130.92	\$1 304.04	\$427 007	\$594 778	\$1 021 785
Denmark (S)	WA	4 609	1 842	599	\$445 107	\$270 658	\$715 765	\$96.57	\$451.85	\$285 220	\$459 278	\$744 498
Oberon	NSW	4 630	2 908	734	\$748 480	\$467 376	\$1 215 856	\$161.66	\$636.75	\$490 544	\$794 712	\$1 285 256
Gilgandra Shire	NSW	4 635	4 836	1 231	\$1 097 956	\$767 268	\$1 865 224	\$236.88	\$623.29	\$795 804	\$1 117 000	\$1 912 804
Cambooya	QLD	4 639	632	418	\$565 541	\$183 592	\$749 133	\$121.91	\$439.22	\$191 362	\$606 291	\$797 653
Miriam Vale	QLD	4 691	3 784	882	\$1 797 722	\$345 189	\$2 142 911	\$383.23	\$391.37	\$359 726	\$1 927 255	\$2 286 981
Wakool Shire	NSW	4 725	7 510	1 273	\$1 196 824	\$853 956	\$2 050 780	\$253.30	\$670.82	\$886 584	\$1 217 652	\$2 104 236
Ttaro	QLD	4 749	2 193	652	\$900 995	\$265 735	\$1 166 730	\$189.72	\$407.57	\$276 980	\$965 916	\$1 242 896
Quirindi Shire	NSW	4 752	3 035	797	\$834 624	\$512 512	\$1 347 136	\$175.64	\$643.05	\$532 212	\$859 372	\$1 391 584
Kolan	QLD	4 794	2 651	749	\$1 324 381	\$299 876	\$1 624 257	\$276.26	\$400.37	\$311 758	\$1 419 808	\$1 731 566
Coonamble Shire	NSW	4 806	9 926	1 386	\$1 292 056	\$850 304	\$2 142 360	\$268.84	\$613.49	\$882 036	\$1 304 556	\$2 186 592
Gloucester Shire	NSW	4 881	2 952	623	\$741 928	\$517 184	\$1 259 112	\$152.00	\$830.15	\$536 240	\$740 996	\$1 277 236
Balonne	QLD	4 902	31 140	2 287	\$965 711	\$833 836	\$1 799 547	\$197.00	\$364.60	\$866 079	\$1 035 294	\$1 901 373

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant		
Rural Agricultural Large (RAL)												
Broadbent	QLD	1 794	18 545	1 138	\$1 855 501	\$453 493	\$2 308 994	\$1 034.28	\$398.50	\$1 989 198	\$425 356	\$2 414 554
Duarings	QLD	2 090	18 143	1 291	\$981 705	\$510 886	\$1 492 591	\$469.72	\$395.73	\$1 052 441	\$482 813	\$1 535 254
Northern Areas	SA	4 815	2 980	2 200	\$644 934	\$682 146	\$1 327 080	\$183.94	\$310.07	\$620 868	\$764 063	\$1 384 931
West Wimmera (S)	VIC	4 829	9 099	2 655	\$1 097 259	\$1 022 646	\$2 119 905	\$227.22	\$385.18	\$1 272 000	\$1 178 030	\$2 450 030
Wambo	QLD	5 200	5 713	1 732	\$1 380 303	\$644 004	\$2 024 307	\$285.44	\$371.83	\$1 479 760	\$668 381	\$2 148 141
Evans Shire	NSW	5 233	4 278	998	\$661 916	\$678 556	\$1 340 472	\$126.49	\$679.92	\$687 104	\$704 332	\$1 391 436
Mirani	QLD	5 322	3 280	430	\$491 199	\$193 539	\$684 738	\$92.30	\$450.09	\$526 592	\$200 993	\$727 585
Kentish (M)	TAS	5 530	5 620	485	\$700 293	\$728 546	\$1 428 839	\$126.64	\$1 502.16	\$727 203	\$749 754	\$1 476 957
West Coast (M)	TAS	5 600	9 750	176	\$704 321	\$401 134	\$1 105 455	\$125.77	\$2 279.17	\$763 753	\$419 885	\$1 183 638
Herberton	QLD	5 601	9 598	931	\$1 624 524	\$369 619	\$1 994 143	\$290.04	\$397.01	\$1 741 578	\$383 749	\$2 125 327
Southern Midlands (M)	TAS	5 621	2 561	804	\$778 629	\$1 276 639	\$2 055 288	\$138.52	\$1 587.86	\$781 304	\$1 312 611	\$2 093 915
Uralla Shire	NSW	5 650	3 230	817	\$843 460	\$552 736	\$1 396 196	\$149.28	\$676.54	\$866 332	\$573 556	\$1 439 888
Chinchilla	QLD	5 699	8 701	2 565	\$1 770 293	\$936 877	\$2 707 170	\$310.63	\$365.25	\$1 897 850	\$972 994	\$2 870 844
Break O day (M)	TAS	5 744	3 196	557	\$726 276	\$975 234	\$1 701 510	\$126.44	\$1 750.87	\$747 651	\$1 018 190	\$1 765 841
Junee Shire	NSW	5 891	2 031	817	\$1 089 376	\$521 948	\$1 621 324	\$186.62	\$638.86	\$1 120 692	\$542 032	\$1 662 724
Murray Shire	NSW	5 908	4 333	1 239	\$1 019 428	\$811 520	\$1 830 948	\$172.55	\$654.98	\$1 056 456	\$855 308	\$1 911 764
Temora Shire	NSW	5 913	2 802	1 134	\$1 126 804	\$715 980	\$1 842 784	\$190.56	\$631.38	\$1 136 588	\$743 240	\$1 879 828
Isis	QLD	6 011	1 702	689	\$665 733	\$289 159	\$954 892	\$110.75	\$419.68	\$713 701	\$300 189	\$1 013 890
Coorong (DC)	SA	6 014	8 902	1 882	\$1 060 560	\$829 433	\$1 889 993	\$176.35	\$440.72	\$1 186 804	\$867 611	\$2 054 415
Towong (S)	VIC	6 156	6 680	1 307	\$931 864	\$746 069	\$1 677 933	\$151.37	\$570.83	\$1 201 000	\$891 616	\$2 092 616
Bland Shire	NSW	6 218	8 560	2 894	\$2 161 076	\$1 688 848	\$3 849 924	\$347.55	\$583.57	\$2 238 136	\$1 759 872	\$3 998 008
Camarvon (S)	WA	6 219	53 000	1 418	\$1 902 410	\$641 654	\$2 544 064	\$305.90	\$452.51	\$2 046 715	\$670 836	\$2 717 551
Blayney Shire	NSW	6 317	1 619	700	\$906 728	\$490 260	\$1 396 988	\$143.54	\$700.37	\$935 984	\$468 680	\$1 434 664

(# = Minimum Grant)

Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Mulwargh Shire	NSW	6 383	5 208	1 232	\$904 900	\$826 892	\$1 731 792	\$141.77	\$671.18	\$859 136	\$1 807 900
Eacham	QLD	6 440	1 126	438	\$850 652	\$205 704	\$1 056 356	\$132.09	\$469.64	\$213 471	\$1 125 416
Snowy River Shire	NSW	6 448	6 030	723	\$1 188 736	\$504 872	\$1 693 608	\$184.36	\$698.30	\$525 340	\$1 750 380
Hindmarsh (S)	VIC	6 449	7 576	3 109	\$1 165 838	\$708 593	\$1 874 431	\$180.78	\$227.92	\$772 556	\$2 005 556
Wakefield (RC)	SA	6 484	3 468	2 708	\$934 029	\$318 034	\$1 252 063	\$144.05	\$117.44	\$906 068	\$1 224 091
Tenterfield Shire	NSW	6 499	7 179	1 395	\$1 367 148	\$932 900	\$2 300 048	\$210.36	\$668.75	\$1 422 680	\$2 401 460
Narramine Shire	NSW	6 504	5 264	1 331	\$1 559 004	\$814 796	\$2 373 800	\$239.70	\$612.17	\$1 591 184	\$2 439 092
Pyrenees (S)	VIC	6 631	3 434	1 999	\$1 149 702	\$1 073 082	\$2 222 784	\$173.38	\$536.81	\$1 463 000	\$2 673 464
Coonabarabran Shire	NSW	6 640	7 576	1 259	\$1 455 680	\$797 972	\$2 253 652	\$219.23	\$633.81	\$1 477 544	\$2 305 756
George Town (M)	TAS	6 738	1 992	282	\$585 809	\$413 402	\$999 211	\$86.94	\$1 465.96	\$619 061	\$1 045 670
Narrandera Shire	NSW	6 762	4 117	1 461	\$1 536 636	\$904 192	\$2 440 828	\$227.25	\$618.89	\$1 584 664	\$2 522 448
Wentworth Shire	NSW	7 045	26 240	1 940	\$2 009 520	\$1 172 636	\$3 182 156	\$285.24	\$604.45	\$2 026 560	\$3 244 392
Tatiana (DC)	SA	7 076	6542	1 940	\$873 811	\$346 856	\$1 220 667	\$123.49	\$178.79	\$1 048 573	\$1 409 726
Lachlan Shire	NSW	7 139	14 973	3 245	\$2 666 292	\$1 907 433	\$4 573 725	\$373.48	\$587.81	\$2 722 864	\$4 702 912
Buloke (S)	VIC	7 268	8 002	5 427	\$1 737 663	\$1 174 447	\$2 912 110	\$239.08	\$216.41	\$1 629 000	\$2 792 165
Mallala (DC)	SA	7 284	934	954	\$568 529	\$145 285	\$713 814	\$78.05	\$152.29	\$625 713	\$1 107 060
Hume Shire	NSW	7 315	1 916	695	\$835 468	\$473 640	\$1 309 108	\$114.21	\$681.50	\$863 264	\$1 355 776
Cootamundra Shire	NSW	7 389	1 524	542	\$1 063 032	\$415 932	\$1 478 964	\$143.87	\$767.40	\$1 086 952	\$1 518 108
Dorset (M)	TAS	7 450	112	738	\$833 855	\$1 171 492	\$2 005 347	\$111.93	\$1 587.39	\$846 614	\$2 055 378
Dungog Shire	NSW	7 966	2 251	610	\$968 276	\$530 632	\$1 498 908	\$121.55	\$869.89	\$951 168	\$1 501 944
Grant (DC)	SA	8 026	1 928	1 581	\$716 265	\$215 012	\$931 277	\$89.24	\$136.00	\$763 868	\$978 846
Mid Murray	SA	8 075	6 266	3 373	\$1 628 082	\$404 035	\$2 032 117	\$201.62	\$119.79	\$1 734 522	\$2 154 213
Berrigan Shire	NSW	8 080	2 061	1 322	\$1 576 724	\$829 324	\$2 406 048	\$195.14	\$627.33	\$1 651 140	\$2 512 124
Latrobe (M)	TAS	8 090	717	264	\$488 419	\$367 836	\$856 255	\$60.37	\$1 383.32	\$519 998	\$918 026

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Naracoorte Lucindale	SA	8 128	4 540	1 604	\$1 087 175	\$314 184	\$1 401 359	\$183.76	\$195.88	\$313 315	\$1 496 648
Walgett Shire	NSW	8 211	22 340	1 950	\$1 910 832	\$1 227 144	\$3 137 976	\$232.72	\$629.30	\$1 272 260	\$3 225 580
Boonah	QLD	8 256	1 921	864	\$847 515	\$368 719	\$1 216 234	\$102.65	\$426.76	\$382 374	\$1 290 957
Nanango	QLD	8 268	1 735	896	\$1 308 869	\$379 947	\$1 688 816	\$158.31	\$424.05	\$395 426	\$1 798 604
Yarrambiack (S)	VIC	8 357	7 314	4 784	\$1 547 055	\$1 009 600	\$2 556 655	\$185.12	\$211.04	\$1 071 741	\$2 606 741
Clare and Gilbert Valleys	SA	8 358	1 890	1 824	\$452 049	\$237 545	\$689 594	\$54.09	\$130.23	\$372 049	\$619 056
Rosalie	QLD	8 395	2 200	1 351	\$1 719 501	\$538 600	\$2 258 101	\$204.82	\$398.67	\$1 843 399	\$2 402 954
Corowa Shire	NSW	8 436	2 156	1 204	\$1 510 892	\$776 468	\$2 287 360	\$179.10	\$644.91	\$1 577 064	\$2 382 864
Circular Head (M)	TAS	8 495	4 917	768	\$852 903	\$979 587	\$1 832 490	\$100.40	\$1 275.50	\$852 498	\$1 880 544
Wellington	NSW	8 512	4 113	1 243	\$1 537 956	\$806 332	\$2 344 288	\$180.68	\$648.70	\$1 558 284	\$2 394 876
Collie (S)	WA	8 627	1 685	410	\$1 005 411	\$391 330	\$1 396 741	\$116.54	\$954.46	\$1 075 241	\$1 653 432
Loddon (S)	VIC	8 665	6 695	4 724	\$1 734 638	\$1 700 824	\$3 435 462	\$200.19	\$360.04	\$2 139 000	\$4 007 766
Cooma-Monaro Shire	NSW	9 200	4 926	840	\$1 450 216	\$601 976	\$2 052 192	\$157.63	\$716.64	\$1 476 304	\$2 100 772
Strathbogie (S)	VIC	9 316	3 302	2 154	\$1 517 808	\$1 159 760	\$2 677 568	\$162.92	\$538.42	\$1 593 000	\$2 902 060
Yass Shire	NSW	9 486	3 298	899	\$1 089 736	\$633 636	\$1 723 372	\$114.88	\$704.82	\$1 095 628	\$1 755 124
Stone Shire	NSW	9 584	4 041	814	\$1 018 424	\$629 528	\$1 647 952	\$106.26	\$773.38	\$1 033 264	\$1 684 956
Yarrowlumna Shire	NSW	9 654	2 970	581	\$669 732	\$466 984	\$1 136 716	\$89.37	\$803.76	\$700 588	\$1 197 992
Kyogle	NSW	9 671	3 589	1 022	\$1 394 448	\$925 312	\$2 319 760	\$144.19	\$905.39	\$1 418 172	\$2 430 396
Derwent Valley (M)	TAS	9 811	3 821	330	\$619 460	\$496 508	\$1 115 968	\$63.14	\$1 504.57	\$656 975	\$1 167 626
Renmark Parings (DC)	SA	9 815	902	469	\$1 307 756	\$143 955	\$1 451 711	\$133.24	\$306.94	\$1 370 330	\$1 520 038
Stanthorpe	QLD	9 950	2 693	1 130	\$1 060 170	\$474 970	\$1 535 140	\$106.55	\$420.33	\$1 048 186	\$1 540 900
Cardwell	QLD	9 984	3 066	550	\$412 430	\$274 263	\$686 693	\$41.31	\$498.66	\$407 768	\$692 712
Fitzroy	QLD	9 988	5 905	1 318	\$1 037 346	\$540 390	\$1 577 736	\$103.86	\$410.01	\$1 112 092	\$1 673 037

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement				
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Rural Agricultural Very Large (RAV)											
Belyando	QLD	4 183	30 281	1 827	\$2 240 010	\$721 868	\$2 961 878	\$535.50	\$395.11	\$693 946	\$3 095 359
Sarina	QLD	10 051	1 445	388	\$554 224	\$218 803	\$773 027	\$85.14	\$563.93	\$226 608	\$820 766
Forbes Shire	NSW	10 084	4 720	1 800	\$2 004 124	\$1 163 128	\$3 167 252	\$198.74	\$646.18	\$1 207 136	\$3 280 316
Light RC	SA	10 268	1 276	1 546	\$280 035	\$469 201	\$749 236	\$27.27	\$303.49	\$390 930	\$630 965
Victor Harbor	SA	10 427	387	374	\$157 785	\$624 558	\$782 343	\$15.13 #	\$1 669.94	\$630 720	\$797 512
Manjimup (S)	WA	10 513	6 894	1272	\$1 293 427	\$931 994	\$2 225 421	\$123.03	\$732.70	\$1 354 678	\$2 587 967
Pristine Waters	NSW	10 642	6 800	1 030	\$1 735 084	\$816 516	\$2 551 600	\$163.04	\$792.73	\$846 348	\$2 584 536
Atherton	QLD	10 651	623	404	\$273 969	\$229 129	\$503 098	\$25.72	\$567.15	\$238 774	\$532 484
Copper Coast (DC)	SA	10 717	778	947	\$1 064 190	\$174 710	\$1 238 900	\$99.30	\$184.49	\$181 946	\$1 245 414
Sorell (M)	TAS	10 911	590	334	\$863 777	\$545 389	\$1 209 166	\$60.84	\$1 632.90	\$571 002	\$1 251 991
Tumut Shire	NSW	11 059	3 767	556	\$1 381 944	\$466 380	\$1 848 324	\$124.96	\$838.81	\$485 032	\$1 904 736
Young Shire	NSW	11 400	2 694	1 056	\$1 336 348	\$740 108	\$2 076 456	\$117.22	\$700.86	\$766 896	\$2 148 832
Berri and Barmera	SA	11 460	508	408	\$1 088 679	\$145 880	\$1 234 559	\$95.00	\$357.55	\$151 720	\$1 282 272
Kingaroy	QLD	11 476	2 422	1 154	\$1 032 172	\$496 097	\$1 528 269	\$89.94	\$429.89	\$515 066	\$1 621 610
Yorke Peninsula (DC)	SA	11 730	5 934	3 873	\$1 099 317	\$508 142	\$1 607 459	\$93.72	\$131.20	\$528 473	\$1 529 318
Leeton Shire	NSW	11 755	1 168	837	\$1 409 268	\$587 964	\$1 997 232	\$119.89	\$702.47	\$620 372	\$2 087 100
Cannawarra (S)	VIC	11 807	3 741	2 452	\$1 338 293	\$1 013 917	\$2 352 210	\$113.35	\$413.51	\$1 071 838	\$2 728 838
Northern Midlands (M)	TAS	11 813	5 130	976	\$1 219 242	\$1 396 367	\$2 615 609	\$103.21	\$1 430.70	\$1 446 422	\$2 686 505
Parry Shire	NSW	11 837	4 404	1 379	\$1 221 984	\$1 025 724	\$2 247 708	\$103.23	\$743.82	\$1 060 900	\$2 310 440
Cabonne	NSW	11 992	6 018	1 818	\$1 545 796	\$1 211 008	\$2 756 804	\$128.90	\$666.12	\$1 257 240	\$2 858 748
Jondaryan	QLD	12 128	1 910	1 018	\$823 165	\$454 304	\$1 077 469	\$51.38	\$446.27	\$472 386	\$1 088 507
Loxton Waikerie (DC)	SA	12 333	7 981	2 308	\$1 573 869	\$447 379	\$2 021 248	\$127.61	\$193.84	\$467 018	\$2 092 250
Gunnedah Shire	NSW	12 480	5 021	1 347	\$1 554 308	\$922 408	\$2 476 716	\$124.54	\$684.79	\$956 480	\$2 561 408

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Local Roads per km	GP grant per capita	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	
Wattle Range	SA	12 482	3 952	2 440	\$1 063 372	\$342 613	\$1 405 985	\$85.19	\$140.42	\$1 003 895	\$356 537	\$1 360 432
Bellingen Shire	NSW	12 543	1 602	475	\$1 479 516	\$494 596	\$1 974 112	\$117.96	\$1 041.25	\$1 551 748	\$514 916	\$2 066 664
Central Goldfields (S)	VIC	12 588	1 535	1 261	\$1 435 110	\$784 153	\$2 219 263	\$114.01	\$621.85	\$1 526 000	\$809 155	\$2 335 155
Cowra Shire	NSW	12 593	2 810	1 203	\$1 667 360	\$841 604	\$2 508 964	\$132.40	\$699.59	\$1 704 648	\$876 672	\$2 581 320
Alpine (S)	VIC	12 665	4 834	799	\$1 176 932	\$611 328	\$1 788 260	\$92.93	\$765.12	\$1 485 000	\$657 600	\$2 142 600
Bowen	QLD	12 679	21 180	1 259	\$844 348	\$542 565	\$1 386 913	\$86.59	\$430.95	\$905 187	\$562 289	\$1 467 476
Murrindindi (S)	VIC	12 988	3 878	1 184	\$956 068	\$1 015 171	\$1 971 239	\$73.61	\$857.41	\$1 232 000	\$1 153 485	\$2 385 485
Northern Grampians (S)	VIC	13 041	5 732	3 407	\$1 864 736	\$1 347 931	\$3 212 667	\$142.99	\$395.64	\$2 016 000	\$1 438 338	\$3 454 338
Emerald	QLD	13 242	10 351	958	\$296 209	\$442 899	\$739 108	\$22.37	\$462.32	\$292 861	\$460 430	\$753 291
Esperance (S)	WA	13 271	42 450	4 181	\$1 422 814	\$1 699 321	\$3 122 135	\$107.21	\$406.44	\$1 303 946	\$1 779 036	\$3 082 982
Hinchinbrook	QLD	13 411	2 807	1 029	\$854 583	\$468 823	\$1 323 406	\$63.72	\$455.61	\$916 160	\$485 865	\$1 402 025
Banana	QLD	13 502	15 755	3 276	\$2 046 586	\$1 248 731	\$3 295 317	\$151.58	\$381.18	\$2 194 051	\$1 295 950	\$3 490 001
Huon Valley (M)	TAS	13 625	80	756	\$960 781	\$1 063 091	\$2 023 872	\$70.52	\$1 406.21	\$980 428	\$1 083 876	\$2 074 304
Narrabri Shire	NSW	13 778	13 030	2 105	\$2 243 156	\$1 350 384	\$3 593 540	\$162.81	\$641.51	\$2 279 856	\$1 401 088	\$3 680 944
Waratah - Wynyard (M)	TAS	13 891	3 553	540	\$978 648	\$844 475	\$1 823 123	\$70.45	\$1 563.84	\$1 035 371	\$871 307	\$1 906 678
Hepburn (S)	VIC	14 102	1 471	1 296	\$1 525 876	\$834 237	\$2 360 113	\$108.20	\$643.70	\$1 627 000	\$855 323	\$2 482 323
Indigo (S)	VIC	14 334	2 049	1 816	\$1 422 000	\$884 083	\$2 306 083	\$99.20	\$486.83	\$1 559 000	\$919 610	\$2 478 610
Esk	QLD	14 340	3 935	1 285	\$653 954	\$565 550	\$1 219 504	\$45.60	\$440.12	\$701 075	\$586 394	\$1 287 469
Golden Plains (S)	VIC	14 479	2 706	1 727	\$1 639 838	\$1 128 447	\$2 768 285	\$113.26	\$653.41	\$1 801 000	\$1 204 288	\$3 005 288
Callope	QLD	14 687	6 556	1 183	\$1 318 697	\$533 130	\$1 851 827	\$89.79	\$450.66	\$1 413 715	\$554 697	\$1 968 412
Inverell Shire	NSW	14 805	8 623	1 784	\$2 044 944	\$1 204 932	\$3 249 876	\$138.13	\$675.41	\$2 143 588	\$1 251 060	\$3 394 648
Parkes Shire	NSW	15 025	5 958	1 773	\$2 090 156	\$1 154 488	\$3 244 644	\$139.11	\$651.15	\$2 175 140	\$1 198 520	\$3 373 660
Moree Plains Shire	NSW	15 059	17 924	2 838	\$2 070 888	\$1 687 716	\$3 758 604	\$137.52	\$639.77	\$2 082 276	\$1 760 412	\$3 842 688
Muswellbrook Shire	NSW	15 130	3 406	571	\$1 439 856	\$527 660	\$1 967 516	\$95.17	\$924.10	\$1 472 892	\$547 984	\$2 020 876

(# = Minimum Grant)

Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement				2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Litchfield (S)	NT	15 433	3 100	665	\$765 813	\$1 430 685	\$2 196 498	\$49.62	\$2 151.41	\$784 005	\$1 461 981	\$2 245 986
Gatton	QLD	15 445	1 578	869	\$453 404	\$430 624	\$884 028	\$29.36	\$495.54	\$448 279	\$446 661	\$894 940
Moyno (S)	VIC	15 965	5 485	3 465	\$1 955 502	\$1 884 991	\$3 840 493	\$122.49	\$544.01	\$2 164 000	\$2 300 137	\$4 464 137
Maclean Shire	NSW	16 475	1 049	521	\$1 879 976	\$503 400	\$2 383 376	\$114.11	\$966.22	\$1 933 288	\$527 280	\$2 460 568
Mount Alexander (S)	VIC	16 541	1 529	1 178	\$1 639 838	\$920 199	\$2 560 037	\$99.14	\$781.15	\$1 693 906	\$925 800	\$2 619 706
Southern Grampians (S)	VIC	16 554	6 734	3 160	\$2 529 344	\$1 688 253	\$4 217 597	\$152.79	\$534.26	\$2 364 000	\$1 927 077	\$4 291 077
Corangamite (S)	VIC	17 002	4 401	2 018	\$1 948 442	\$1 565 583	\$3 514 025	\$114.60	\$775.81	\$2 194 000	\$1 991 918	\$4 185 918
Murray Bridge (DC)	SA	17 030	1 829	968	\$1 810 671	\$248 228	\$2 058 899	\$106.32	\$256.43	\$2 019 872	\$260 561	\$2 280 433
Nambucca Shire	NSW	17 434	1 491	631	\$1 599 568	\$709 216	\$2 308 784	\$91.75	\$1 123.96	\$1 665 092	\$737 084	\$2 402 176
Alexandrina	SA	17 535	1 830	1 351	\$427 277	\$292 306	\$719 583	\$24.37	\$216.36	\$377 277	\$304 007	\$681 284
Meander Valley (M)	TAS	17 560	1 430	810	\$1 238 781	\$1 262 931	\$2 501 712	\$70.55	\$1 559.17	\$1 250 314	\$1 299 507	\$2 549 821
Port Pirie (C&DC)	SA	17 845	1 785	1 194	\$2 670 732	\$298 218	\$2 968 950	\$149.66	\$249.76	\$2 877 376	\$296 727	\$3 174 103
Mudgee Shire	NSW	18 171	5 540	1 347	\$1 631 600	\$1 009 592	\$2 641 192	\$89.79	\$749.51	\$1 668 832	\$1 047 976	\$2 716 808
Burdakin	QLD	18 742	5 042	1 058	\$583 749	\$523 634	\$1 107 383	\$31.15	\$494.93	\$577 150	\$542 331	\$1 119 481
Barossa	SA	18 818	893	912	\$454 081	\$375 908	\$829 989	\$24.13	\$412.18	\$401 081	\$342 765	\$743 846
Marreeba	QLD	18 875	53 635	2 128	\$1 752 043	\$895 845	\$2 647 888	\$92.82	\$420.98	\$1 878 286	\$930 580	\$2 808 866
Rural Remote Extra Small (RTX)												
Silverton Village	NSW	58	n/a	n/a	\$19 640	\$0	\$19 640	\$338.62	-	\$20 300	\$0	\$20 300
Nepaburra	SA	70	n/a	10	\$18 394	\$11 772	\$30 166	\$262.77	\$1 177.20	\$18 973	\$12 204	\$31 177
Gerard	SA	124	n/a	10	\$28 674	\$11 824	\$40 498	\$231.24	\$1 182.40	\$29 577	\$12 257	\$41 834
Tibooburra Village	NSW	124	n/a	n/a	\$41 992	\$0	\$41 992	\$338.65	-	\$43 400	\$0	\$43 400
Murchison (S)	WA	145 43	800	1 721	\$775 983	\$426 822	\$1 202 805	\$5 351.61	\$248.01	\$880 996	\$445 502	\$1 326 498
Ikunji	NT	159	n/a	124	\$64 004	\$36 023	\$100 027	\$402.54	\$290.51	\$59 553	\$34 533	\$94 086

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	
Imrapa	NT	160	n/a	20	\$45 766	\$22 548	\$68 314	\$286.04	\$1 127.40	\$42 584	\$21 614	\$64 198
Sandstone (S)	WA	169	28 218	1 148	\$579 918	\$387 180	\$967 098	\$3 431.47	\$337.26	\$677 735	\$404 074	\$1 081 809
Wallace Rockhole	NT	175	5	23	\$39 013	\$20 284	\$59 297	\$222.93	\$881.91	\$36 300	\$15 134	\$51 434
Maralinga	SA	190	n/a	n/a	\$59 913	\$31 752	\$91 665	\$315.33	-	\$61 799	\$32 915	\$94 714
Aputula	NT	194	n/a	66	\$47 849	\$29 671	\$77 520	\$246.64	\$449.56	\$44 522	\$28 443	\$72 965
Jilkminggan	NT	207	6	16	\$41 616	\$20 284	\$61 900	\$201.04	\$1 267.75	\$38 722	\$22 808	\$61 530
Milyakburra	NT	217	n/a	52	\$64 417	\$20 284	\$84 701	\$296.85	\$390.08	\$59 937	\$17 699	\$77 636
Peppimenarti	NT	225	n/a	115	\$86 016	\$142 661	\$228 677	\$382.29	\$1 240.53	\$80 035	\$120 869	\$200 904
Yuelamu	NT	239	n/a	195	\$56 276	\$55 509	\$111 785	\$235.46	\$284.66	\$52 362	\$55 075	\$107 437
Cox Peninsula	NT	250	n/a	13	\$13 234	\$42 293	\$55 527	\$52.94	\$3 253.31	\$18 220	\$41 066	\$59 286
Waiyawanu (Mt Liebig)	NT	250	78	80	\$50 063	\$20 284	\$70 347	\$200.25	\$253.55	\$46 581	\$24 190	\$70 771
Minjilang	NT	251	n/a	65	\$54 209	\$65 951	\$120 160	\$215.97	\$1 014.63	\$50 439	\$64 751	\$115 190
Tapatjajaka	NT	252	12	56	\$41 231	\$20 284	\$61 515	\$163.62	\$362.21	\$38 364	\$19 925	\$58 289
Aktrapiita	NT	255	12	32	\$55 470	\$20 284	\$75 754	\$217.53	\$633.88	\$51 613	\$19 664	\$71 277
Areyonga	NT	257	n/a	37	\$51 131	\$29 699	\$80 830	\$198.95	\$802.68	\$47 575	\$28 470	\$76 045
Belyuen	NT	260	41	84	\$38 122	\$24 504	\$62 626	\$146.62	\$291.71	\$35 471	\$23 489	\$58 960
Yalata	SA	267	2	203	\$72 968	\$25 563	\$98 531	\$273.29	\$125.93	\$75 265	\$26 500	\$101 765
Binjari	NT	270	3	5	\$35 344	\$20 284	\$55 628	\$130.90	\$4 056.80	\$32 886	\$12 234	\$45 120
Isisford	QLD	270	10 504	910	\$1 049 422	\$317 891	\$1 367 313	\$3 886.75	\$349.33	\$1 125 037	\$330 317	\$1 455 354
Amoonguna	NT	274	n/a	11	\$37 542	\$20 284	\$57 826	\$137.01	\$1 844.00	\$34 931	\$10 215	\$45 146
Croydon	QLD	304	29 582	1 072	\$1 461 109	\$374 161	\$1 835 270	\$4 806.28	\$349.03	\$1 444 592	\$388 867	\$1 833 459
Nyiripi	NT	307	n/a	314	\$73 704	\$81 073	\$154 777	\$240.08	\$258.19	\$68 579	\$91 933	\$160 512
Ilfracombe	QLD	308	6 577	354	\$1 018 378	\$125 260	\$1 143 638	\$3 306.42	\$353.84	\$1 091 756	\$130 139	\$1 221 895
Marngarr	NT	313	3	12	\$35 105	\$20 284	\$55 389	\$112.16	\$1 690.33	\$32 664	\$10 774	\$43 438

(# = Minimum Grant)

Council name	State	Population 2000	Council area	Total road length	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement			
					General purpose	Roads	Total grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Timber Creek	NT	319	16	51	\$46 607	\$87 383	\$133 990	\$1 713.39	\$46 918	\$78 008	\$124 926
Papunya	NT	329	n/a	195	\$58 837	\$48 005	\$106 842	\$178.84	\$54 746	\$40 144	\$94 890
Gulin Gulin and Weemol	NT	338	n/a	33	\$70 197	\$40 588	\$110 785	\$207.68	\$31 448	\$51 178	\$82 626
Diamantina	QLD	339	94 887	1 155	\$1 724 763	\$403 227	\$2 127 990	\$5 087.80	\$1 705 266	\$418 973	\$2 124 239
Menzies (S)	WA	341	71 680	1 464	\$497 872	\$374 771	\$872 643	\$1 460.04	\$555 186	\$391 165	\$946 351
Upper Gascoyne (S)	WA	350	46 602	1 857	\$888 716	\$530 902	\$1 419 618	\$2 539.19	\$1 008 147	\$491 509	\$1 499 656
Kaltukatjara	NT	353	n/a	329	\$72 851	\$87 912	\$160 763	\$206.38	\$67 784	\$84 273	\$152 057
Lord Howe Island (Bd)	NSW	353	16	n/a	\$114 048	\$0	\$114 048	\$323.08	\$118 161	\$0	\$118 161
Yalgoo (S)	WA	359	33 258	1 221	\$611 302	\$359 754	\$971 056	\$1 702.79	\$705 441	\$375 497	\$1 080 938
Warruwi	NT	372	n/a	67	\$68 479	\$83 414	\$151 893	\$184.08	\$63 717	\$79 961	\$143 678
Mataranka	NT	376	233	21	\$21 645	\$43 671	\$65 316	\$57.57	\$26 859	\$44 606	\$71 465
Nguanmariyanga (Palumpa)	NT	378	n/a	158	\$63 540	\$50 594	\$114 134	\$168.10	\$59 121	\$48 500	\$107 621
Cue (S)	WA	397	13 716	774	\$481 748	\$276 598	\$758 346	\$1 213.47	\$552 693	\$288 012	\$840 705
Atherenige (Arunga)	NT	460	n/a	32	\$75 713	\$22 503	\$98 216	\$164.59	\$70 447	\$25 965	\$96 412
Walingeri-Ngumpinku	NT	493	386	82	\$75 118	\$20 284	\$95 402	\$152.37	\$69 894	\$47 086	\$116 980
Rural Remote Small (RTS)											
Walungurru	NT	451	n/a	322	\$83 347	\$97 464	\$180 811	\$184.80	\$77 550	\$93 430	\$170 980
Barcoo	QLD	464	61 982	1 645	\$852 935	\$574 274	\$1 427 209	\$1 838.22	\$914 392	\$596 679	\$1 511 071
Nautiyu Nambiyu	NT	464	43	104	\$57 004	\$97 188	\$154 192	\$122.85	\$66 541	\$185 923	\$202 464
Ali Curung	NT	467	n/a	150	\$61 434	\$49 678	\$111 112	\$131.55	\$57 161	\$47 622	\$104 783
Umbakumba	NT	494	n/a	124	\$74 056	\$86 445	\$160 501	\$149.91	\$73 513	\$96 593	\$170 106
Bulloo	QLD	504	73 850	2 694	\$1 249 412	\$938 045	\$2 187 457	\$2 478.99	\$1 339 437	\$974 748	\$2 314 185
Boulia	QLD	535	61 123	1 210	\$1 501 050	\$423 933	\$1 924 983	\$2 805.70	\$1 609 207	\$440 481	\$2 049 688

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Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement					
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads
Barunga Manyallak	NT	536	3 783	133	\$73 800	\$87 719	\$161 519	\$137.69	\$659.54	\$84 088	\$157 459
Burke	QLD	541	42 121	891	\$1 552 325	\$313 400	\$1 865 725	\$2 869.36	\$351.74	\$325 588	\$1 989 764
Wuylarr	NT	558	3 185	45	\$48 906	\$27 499	\$76 405	\$87.65	\$611.09	\$133 558	\$218 544
Lyentye Purte (Santa Teresa)	NT	577	1 242	114	\$60 270	\$69 062	\$129 332	\$104.45	\$605.81	\$66 203	\$136 585
Tambo	QLD	585	14 114	728	\$1 222 335	\$257 367	\$1 479 702	\$2 089.46	\$353.53	\$267 406	\$1 577 816
Niaria	NT	600	n/a	335	\$67 592	\$84 180	\$151 772	\$112.65	\$251.28	\$80 695	\$155 178
Pine Creek	NT	621	400	63	\$27 641	\$110 941	\$138 582	\$44.51	\$1 760.97	\$106 343	\$145 504
Elliott District	NT	670	3	29	\$54 428	\$20 284	\$74 712	\$81.24	\$699.45	\$40 593	\$104 879
Ramingining	NT	684	n/a	140	\$101 579	\$94 394	\$195 973	\$148.51	\$674.24	\$97 993	\$192 508
Alpururulam	NT	713	10	29	\$65 206	\$20 284	\$85 490	\$91.45	\$699.45	\$30 034	\$101 436
Mount Magnet (S)	WA	714	13 877	782	\$508 259	\$315 749	\$824 008	\$711.85	\$403.77	\$329 419	\$931 074
Daguragu	NT	764	43	89	\$78 817	\$96 155	\$174 972	\$103.16	\$1 080.39	\$92 176	\$194 375
Aramac	QLD	802	23 348	1 140	\$1 244 215	\$401 898	\$1 646 113	\$1 551.39	\$352.54	\$417 374	\$1 751 243
Borroolola	NT	827	13	25	\$59 291	\$60 500	\$119 791	\$71.69	\$2 420.00	\$57 996	\$155 312
Milingimbi	NT	830	n/a	37	\$86 255	\$42 587	\$128 842	\$103.92	\$1 151.00	\$40 824	\$148 018
Urapunija	NT	880	n/a	304	\$114 979	\$61 597	\$176 576	\$130.66	\$202.62	\$72 360	\$206 862
Angurugu	NT	902	2	96	\$77 640	\$93 457	\$171 097	\$86.08	\$973.51	\$91 221	\$201 082
Etheridge	QLD	923	39 308	1 797	\$1 625 960	\$630 738	\$2 256 698	\$1 761.60	\$350.99	\$655 508	\$2 398 626
Shark Bay (S)	WA	984	25 000	612	\$706 865	\$254 242	\$961 107	\$718.36	\$415.43	\$265 944	\$1 011 274
Jericho	QLD	998	21 876	1 182	\$1 208 311	\$417 963	\$1 626 274	\$1 210.73	\$353.61	\$434 204	\$1 729 579
Yirrkala/Dhanbul	NT	1009	n/a	54	\$71 141	\$51 333	\$122 474	\$70.51	\$950.61	\$49 208	\$142 277
Capuwiyak	NT	1075	n/a	378	\$113 498	\$157 124	\$270 622	\$105.58	\$415.67	\$150 620	\$293 668
Kunbarlanjinja	NT	1087	530	665	\$151 793	\$400 209	\$552 002	\$139.64	\$601.82	\$390 469	\$596 382
Numbulwar/Numburindi	NT	1205	4 500	302	\$123 252	\$132 435	\$255 687	\$102.28	\$438.53	\$126 954	\$278 734

(# = Minimum Grant)

Distribution of financial assistance grants to Local Government 2001-2002

Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Rural Remote Medium (RTM)												
Richmond	QLD	1 046	26 606	1 264	\$1 215 375	\$446 930	\$1 662 305	\$1 161.93	\$353.58	\$1 302 948	\$464 319	\$1 767 267
Lajamanu	NT	1 077	7 313	301	\$97 716	\$63 022	\$160 738	\$90.73	\$209.38	\$118 253	\$82 325	\$200 578
Yuendumu	NT	1 077	22 142	839	\$120 043	\$187 687	\$307 730	\$111.46	\$223.70	\$235 655	\$250 583	\$486 238
McKinlay	QLD	1 132	40 883	1 591	\$1 247 036	\$560 903	\$1 807 939	\$1 101.62	\$352.55	\$1 336 890	\$582 793	\$1 919 683
Wiluna (S)	WA	1 156	184 000	1 880	\$532 920	\$514 004	\$1 046 924	\$461.00	\$273.41	\$551 044	\$523 081	\$1 074 125
Laverton (S)	WA	1 164	183 198	1 691	\$755 257	\$423 952	\$1 179 209	\$648.85	\$250.71	\$793 750	\$492 477	\$1 286 227
Quilpie	QLD	1 253	67 613	2 525	\$1 083 590	\$885 798	\$1 969 388	\$864.80	\$350.81	\$1 161 667	\$920 231	\$2 081 898
Dundas (S)	WA	1 483	92 725	625	\$524 943	\$208 287	\$733 230	\$353.97	\$333.26	\$548 189	\$217 455	\$765 644
Anmatjere	NT	1 502	3 631	203	\$151 275	\$100 159	\$251 434	\$100.72	\$493.39	\$202 334	\$96 014	\$298 348
Yugal Mangi	NT	1 545	12 269	175	\$198 701	\$167 696	\$366 397	\$128.61	\$958.26	\$247 132	\$160 794	\$407 886
Winton	QLD	1 571	53 931	2 559	\$1 752 803	\$900 108	\$2 652 911	\$1 115.72	\$351.74	\$1 879 100	\$935 147	\$2 814 247
Coomalie (CGC)	NT	1 599	n/a	178	\$82 400	\$281 395	\$363 795	\$51.53	\$1 580.87	\$136 928	\$283 275	\$420 203
Nganyatjarraku (S)	WA	1 643	159 948	1 317	\$1 479 822	\$648 044	\$2 127 866	\$900.68	\$492.06	\$1 664 086	\$722 980	\$2 387 066
Barcardine	QLD	1 719	8 446	1 045	\$1 301 256	\$376 542	\$1 677 798	\$756.98	\$360.33	\$1 395 017	\$390 991	\$1 786 008
Blackall	QLD	1 729	16 385	1 111	\$1 291 764	\$399 504	\$1 691 268	\$747.12	\$359.59	\$1 384 842	\$414 578	\$1 799 420
Gallwinku	NT	1 776	n/a	344	\$177 919	\$144 208	\$322 127	\$100.18	\$419.21	\$211 540	\$138 239	\$349 779
Maningrida	NT	2 048	n/a	288	\$184 244	\$114 048	\$298 292	\$89.96	\$396.00	\$203 431	\$182 878	\$386 309
Flinders	QLD	2 057	41 536	1 880	\$951 354	\$668 933	\$1 620 287	\$462.50	\$355.82	\$1 019 903	\$684 776	\$1 714 679
Kardu Numida	NT	2 112	n/a	270	\$283 764	\$124 222	\$407 986	\$134.36	\$460.08	\$299 370	\$174 913	\$474 283
Paroo	QLD	2 156	47 725	2 181	\$1 446 030	\$774 175	\$2 220 205	\$670.70	\$354.96	\$1 550 223	\$804 013	\$2 354 236
Meekatharra (S)	WA	2 195	99 973	2 316	\$821 275	\$621 515	\$1 442 790	\$374.16	\$268.36	\$935 478	\$647 991	\$1 583 469
Exmouth (S)	WA	2 202	5 764	310	\$819 964	\$227 643	\$1 047 607	\$372.37	\$734.33	\$854 374	\$238 035	\$1 092 409
Tiwi Island	NT	2 309	n/a	496	\$267 235	\$391 142	\$658 377	\$115.74	\$788.59	\$372 790	\$572 700	\$945 490

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Council name	State	Population 2000	2001-02 Actual entitlement			2002-03 Estimated entitlement						
			Council area	Total road length	General purpose	Roads	Total grant	GP grant per capita	Local Roads per km	General purpose	Roads	Total grant
Anarngu Pitjanjatjara	SA	2 330	52	800	\$734 725	\$88 746	\$823 471	\$315.33	\$110.93	\$757 851	\$91 997	\$849 848
Central Darling Shire	NSW	2 354	53 509	1 602	\$1 664 920	\$920 344	\$2 585 264	\$707.27	\$574.50	\$1 714 528	\$955 640	\$2 670 168
Carpentaria	QLD	2 521	68 334	1 656	\$2 137 776	\$595 165	\$2 732 941	\$847.99	\$359.40	\$2 113 610	\$618 491	\$2 732 101
Leonora (S)	WA	2 701	31 743	1 309	\$471 169	\$401 385	\$872 554	\$174.44	\$306.63	\$499 927	\$418 802	\$918 729
Rural Remote Large (RTL)												
Cloncurry	QLD	3 452	48 110	1 765	\$697 151	\$640 743	\$1 337 894	\$201.96	\$363.03	\$747 383	\$665 969	\$1 413 352
Halls Creek (S)	WA	3 593	142 908	1 251	\$1 720 588	\$633 083	\$2 353 671	\$478.87	\$506.06	\$1 878 648	\$696 398	\$2 575 046
Longreach	QLD	3 813	23 560	1 627	\$1 344 187	\$595 788	\$1 939 975	\$352.53	\$366.19	\$1 441 041	\$618 827	\$2 059 868
Cook	QLD	4 277	117 087	2 557	\$2 108 843	\$922 202	\$3 031 045	\$493.07	\$360.66	\$2 260 794	\$958 316	\$3 219 110
Murweh	QLD	4 811	40 743	2 688	\$1 600 107	\$972 014	\$2 572 121	\$332.59	\$361.61	\$1 715 402	\$1 009 856	\$2 725 258
Outback Areas Community Development Trust	SA	5 271	n/a	n/a	\$840 366	\$0	\$840 366	\$159.43	-	\$866 817	\$0	\$866 817
Cobar Shire	NSW	5 474	45 608	1 668	\$1 755 820	\$986 228	\$2 742 048	\$320.76	\$591.26	\$1 771 988	\$1 027 340	\$2 799 328
Ashburton (S)	WA	6 386	105 647	2 170	\$1 757 605	\$815 369	\$2 572 974	\$275.23	\$375.75	\$1 855 081	\$841 773	\$2 696 854
East Pilbara (S)	WA	6 552	378 533	2 864	\$1 719 480	\$1 302 656	\$3 022 136	\$262.44	\$454.84	\$1 807 420	\$1 309 206	\$3 116 626
Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	WA	7 492	121 189	1 057	\$2 419 621	\$767 875	\$3 187 496	\$322.96	\$726.47	\$2 563 412	\$791 717	\$3 355 129
Derby-West Kimberley (S)	WA	7 883	102 706	1 629	\$2 872 589	\$621 672	\$3 494 261	\$364.40	\$381.63	\$3 135 968	\$694 150	\$3 830 118
Broome (S)	WA	11 571	56 000	848	\$1 989 880	\$655 033	\$2 644 913	\$171.97	\$772.44	\$2 101 349	\$654 739	\$2 756 088
Others												
Trust account	NT	n/a	n/a	1 566	\$0	\$494 019	\$494 019	-	\$315.47	\$0	\$512 584	\$512 584

(# = Minimum Grant)

APPENDIX E

RANKING OF COUNCILS ON A RELATIVE NEEDS BASIS 2001–02

Councils often compare the grant they receive with the grants of other councils in their State and assume that, if another council gets a similar sized grant, then that other council has been assessed as having similar relative needs. Such an assumption can be incorrect.

In determining the allocation of general purpose grants and the local roads grants to councils, Local Government grants commissions implicitly determine a ranking for each council in their State on the basis of relative needs. A comparison of councils on the basis of relative needs is preferred to a comparison on the basis of the actual grant they receive.

In this appendix, the grant per capita is used as the basis of the comparison of relative need for the general purpose grants. For local roads grants, the allocation of grants for each council in 2001–02 is divided by their length of local roads to obtain a relative need measure. In Tables E.1 to E.7, councils within a State are sorted on the value of:

- the general purpose grant per capita, and
- the local roads grants per kilometre.

For each council, each table gives their ranking obtained for both grants.

Councils are ranked from the council in the greatest assessed relative need to the council in the least assessed relative need. For each State, the position of the average general purpose grant per capita and the average local roads grant per kilometre are also shown within the ranking of councils. These State averages are taken from Tables 2.5 and 2.6.

Councils should use these rankings when comparing the financial assistance grants they receive with the financial assistance grants other councils in their State receive. For instance, Appendix D shows that the Shire of Cooloola in Queensland (URM) received \$1 557 920 in general purpose grants in 2001–02 while the City of Caloundra (URL) received \$1 102 847. The Shire of Cooloola's grant is \$46.55 per capita while the City of Caloundra's grant is \$15.13 per capita. This suggests that the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission has assessed the Shire of Cooloola as having the greater relative need. In Table E.3, the Shire of Cooloola is shown to rank 126 among Queensland councils for general purpose grants while the City of Caloundra is a minimum grant council and is ranked 148.

Table E.1 New South Wales councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001-02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Central Darling Shire	RTM	\$707.27	1	Queanbeyan City	URS	\$2,590.42
2	Carrathool Shire	RAM	\$533.20	2	Waverley	UDM	\$2,472.15
3	Brewarrina Shire	RAM	\$517.97	3	Sydney City	UCC	\$2,226.98
4	Urana Shire	RAS	\$488.06	4	Canterbury City	UDV	\$2,193.98
5	Conargo Shire	RAS	\$470.84	5	Randwick City	UDV	\$2,149.95
6	Bourke Shire	RAM	\$470.78	6	Ashfield Municipal	UDM	\$2,143.70
7	Jerilderie Shire	RAS	\$406.75	7	South Sydney City	UDL	\$2,100.34
8	Balranald Shire	RAM	\$375.48	8	Marrickville	UDL	\$2,010.95
9	Lachlan Shire	RAL	\$373.48	9	North Sydney	UDM	\$1,993.17
10	Lockhart Shire	RAM	\$371.41	10	Woollahra Municipal	UDM	\$1,977.54
11	Bogan Shire	RAM	\$369.11	11	Botany Bay City	UDM	\$1,976.40
12	Bland Shire	RAL	\$347.55	12	Fairfield City	UDV	\$1,939.95
13	Tibooburra Village	RTX	\$338.65	13	Strathfield Municipal	UDS	\$1,916.65
14	Silverton Village	RTX	\$338.62	14	Albury City	URM	\$1,907.08
15	Lord Howe Island (Bd)	RTX	\$323.08	15	Burwood	UDM	\$1,904.54
16	Cobar Shire	RTL	\$320.76	16	Manly	UDM	\$1,891.77
17	Barraba Shire	RAM	\$313.73	17	Leichhardt Municipal	UDM	\$1,868.18
18	Coolamon Shire	RAM	\$302.50	18	Rockdale City	UDL	\$1,866.49
19	Wentworth Shire	RAL	\$285.24	19	Goulburn City	URS	\$1,863.09
20	Hay Shire	RAM	\$279.61	20	Parramatta City	UDV	\$1,860.53
21	Yallaroi Shire	RAM	\$269.04	21	Hurstville City	UDL	\$1,811.07
22	Coonamble Shire	RAM	\$268.84	22	Mosman Municipal	UDS	\$1,785.13
23	Coolah Shire	RAM	\$265.50	23	Ryde City	UDL	\$1,782.73
24	Weddin Shire	RAM	\$262.19	24	Canada Bay	UDM	\$1,776.19
25	Harden Shire	RAM	\$260.39	25	Bankstown City	UDV	\$1,775.29
26	Warren Shire	RAM	\$253.67	26	Willoughby City	UDM	\$1,749.31
27	Wakool Shire	RAM	\$253.30	27	Lane Cove Municipal	UDM	\$1,740.68
28	Bingara Shire	RAS	\$252.75	28	Holroyd City	UDL	\$1,737.67
29	Bombala	RAM	\$242.45	29	Auburn	UDM	\$1,730.90
30	Narromine Shire	RAL	\$239.70	30	Kogarah Municipal	UDM	\$1,726.77
31	Gilgandra Shire	RAM	\$236.88	31	Bathurst City	URM	\$1,725.59
32	Walgett Shire	RAL	\$232.72	32	Tamworth City	URM	\$1,718.07
33	Murrumbidgee Shire	RAM	\$229.68	33	Warringah	UDV	\$1,711.66
34	Severn Shire	RAM	\$227.53	34	Coffs Harbour City	URM	\$1,698.43

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
35	Narrandera Shire	RAL	\$227.25	35	Campbelltown City	UFV	\$1,697.59
36	Tallaganda Shire	RAM	\$223.74	36	Grafton City	URS	\$1,661.27
37	Culcairn Shire	RAM	\$223.28	37	Sutherland Shire	UDV	\$1,659.76
38	Coonabarabran Shire	RAL	\$219.23	38	Pittwater	UDM	\$1,654.72
39	Tenterfield Shire	RAL	\$210.36	39	Blacktown City	UDV	\$1,643.44
40	Boorowa	RAM	\$208.94	40	Orange City	URM	\$1,604.43
41	Gunning Shire	RAM	\$203.75	41	Ku-ring-gai	UDL	\$1,593.20
42	Tumbarumba Shire	RAM	\$202.44	42	Hornsby Shire	UFV	\$1,580.63
43	Holbrook Shire	RAM	\$199.93	43	Broken Hill City	URS	\$1,555.11
44	Forbes Shire	RAV	\$198.74	44	Wollongong City	URV	\$1,548.61
45	Merriwa Shire	RAM	\$197.54	45	Hunters Hill Municipal	UDS	\$1,547.48
46	Rylstone Shire	RAM	\$195.20	46	Shellharbour City	URM	\$1,535.59
47	Berrigan Shire	RAL	\$195.14	47	Liverpool City	UFV	\$1,534.51
48	Guyra Shire	RAM	\$192.79	48	Newcastle City	URV	\$1,520.75
49	Temora Shire	RAL	\$190.56	49	Penrith City	UFV	\$1,450.48
50	Nundle Shire	RAS	\$187.98	50	Tweed Shire	URL	\$1,423.45
51	Junee Shire	RAL	\$186.62	51	Baulkham Hills Shire	UFV	\$1,417.29
52	Snowy River Shire	RAL	\$184.36	52	Camden	UFM	\$1,385.32
53	Copmanhurst Shire	RAM	\$182.84	53	Gosford City	UFV	\$1,381.66
54	Manilla Shire	RAM	\$180.82	54	Lake Macquarie City	URV	\$1,369.83
55	Wellington	RAL	\$180.68	55	Byron Shire	URS	\$1,366.84
56	Corowa Shire	RAL	\$179.10	56	Wyong Shire	UFV	\$1,347.37
57	Quirindi Shire	RAM	\$175.64	57	Kiama Municipal	URS	\$1,344.40
58	Murray Shire	RAL	\$172.55	58	Ballina Shire	URM	\$1,321.88
59	Murrurundi Shire	RAM	\$164.35	59	Hastings	URM	\$1,288.49
60	Pristine Waters	RAV	\$163.04	60	Maitland City	URM	\$1,256.78
61	Narrabri Shire	RAV	\$162.81	61	Shoalhaven City	URL	\$1,225.17
62	Walcha	RAM	\$162.10	62	Glen Innes Municipal	URS	\$1,224.50
63	Oberon	RAM	\$161.66	63	Blue Mountains City	UFL	\$1,213.93
64	Crookwell Shire	RAM	\$161.54	64	Hawkesbury City	UFM	\$1,212.15
65	Gundagai Shire	RAM	\$161.18	65	Port Stephens	URM	\$1,207.12
66	Cooma-Monaro Shire	RAL	\$157.63	66	Cessnock City	URM	\$1,170.80
67	Gloucester Shire	RAM	\$152.00	67	Wollondilly Shire	UFM	\$1,161.60
68	Uralla Shire	RAL	\$149.28	68	Nambucca Shire	RAV	\$1,123.96
69	Deniliquin	URS	\$146.77	69	Lismore City	URM	\$1,101.75
70	Kyogle	RAL	\$144.19	70	Deniliquin	URS	\$1,080.05

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
71	Cootamundra Shire	RAL	\$143.87	71	Bellingen Shire	RAV	\$1,041.25
72	Blayney Shire	RAL	\$143.54	72	Wingecarribee Shire	URM	\$1,036.21
73	Mulwaree Shire	RAL	\$141.77	73	Kempsey Shire	URS	\$1,028.72
74	Parkes Shire	RAV	\$139.11	74	Great Lakes	URM	\$1,017.34
75	Glen Innes Municipal	URS	\$138.62	75	Eurobodalla Shire	URM	\$1,007.23
76	Inverell Shire	RAV	\$138.13	76	Greater Taree City	URM	\$993.90
77	Moree Plains Shire	RAV	\$137.52	77	Bega Valley Shire	URS	\$973.91
78	Cowra Shire	RAV	\$132.40	78	Singleton Shire	URS	\$972.56
79	Cabonne	RAV	\$128.90	79	Maclean Shire	RAV	\$966.22
80	Evans Shire	RAL	\$126.49	80	Dubbo City	URM	\$940.54
81	Tumut Shire	RAV	\$124.96	81	Muswellbrook Shire	RAV	\$924.10
82	Gunnedah Shire	RAV	\$124.54	82	Wagga Wagga City	URM	\$920.99
83	Broken Hill City	URS	\$121.71	83	Richmond Valley	URS	\$919.37
84	Dungog Shire	RAL	\$121.55	84	Lithgow City	URS	\$906.14
85	Leeton Shire	RAV	\$119.89	85	Kyogle	RAL	\$905.39
86	Bellingen Shire	RAV	\$117.96	86	Armidale Dumaresq	URS	\$874.04
87	Young Shire	RAV	\$117.22	State average			\$870.80
88	Yass Shire	RAL	\$114.88	87	Dungog Shire	RAL	\$869.89
89	Richmond Valley	URS	\$114.58	88	Copmanhurst Shire	RAM	\$839.69
90	Hume Shire	RAL	\$114.21	89	Tumut Shire	RAV	\$838.81
91	Maclean Shire	RAV	\$114.11	90	Gloucester Shire	RAM	\$830.15
92	Eurobodalla Shire	URM	\$110.21	91	Yarrowlumla Shire	RAL	\$803.76
93	Great Lakes	URM	\$109.87	92	Pristine Waters	RAV	\$792.73
94	Scone Shire	RAL	\$106.26	93	Scone Shire	RAL	\$773.38
95	Parry Shire	RAV	\$103.23	94	Cootamundra Shire	RAL	\$767.40
96	Lithgow City	URS	\$100.24	95	Griffith City	URS	\$761.09
97	Bega Valley Shire	URS	\$97.86	96	Mudgee Shire	RAV	\$749.51
98	Muswellbrook Shire	RAV	\$95.17	97	Parry Shire	RAV	\$743.82
99	Nambucca Shire	RAV	\$91.75	98	Tumbarumba Shire	RAM	\$725.20
100	Mudgee Shire	RAV	\$89.79	99	Cooma-Monaro Shire	RAL	\$716.64
101	Kempsey Shire	URS	\$87.67	100	Yass Shire	RAL	\$704.82
102	Grafton City	URS	\$75.72	101	Leeton Shire	RAV	\$702.47
103	Shoalhaven City	URL	\$75.61	102	Young Shire	RAV	\$700.86
104	Dubbo City	URM	\$75.19	103	Blayney Shire	RAL	\$700.37
105	Armidale Dumaresq	URS	\$75.04	104	Cowra Shire	RAV	\$699.59
106	Lismore City	URM	\$73.00	105	Holbrook Shire	RAM	\$699.19

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
107	Yarrowlumla Shire	RAL	\$69.37	106	Snowy River Shire	RAL	\$698.30
108	Cessnock City	URM	\$67.68	107	Murrurundi Shire	RAM	\$697.95
109	Albury City	URM	\$67.49	108	Gundagai Shire	RAM	\$696.55
110	Blue Mountains City	UFL	\$65.53	109	Nundle Shire	RAS	\$696.03
111	Goulburn City	URS	\$64.53	110	Manilla Shire	RAM	\$694.29
112	Wagga Wagga City	URM	\$64.00	111	Severn Shire	RAM	\$689.16
113	Singleton Shire	URS	\$63.00	112	Rylstone Shire	RAM	\$687.24
114	Griffith City	URS	\$62.25	113	Gunnedah Shire	RAV	\$684.79
115	Newcastle City	URV	\$61.06	114	Hume Shire	RAL	\$681.50
116	Greater Taree City	URM	\$60.96	115	Evans Shire	RAL	\$679.92
117	Tweed Shire	URL	\$60.92	116	Uralla Shire	RAL	\$676.54
118	Tamworth City	URM	\$59.82	117	Inverell Shire	RAV	\$675.41
119	Hastings	URM	\$57.38	118	Mulwaree Shire	RAL	\$671.18
120	Bathurst City	URM	\$56.77	119	Wakool Shire	RAM	\$670.82
121	Wingecarribee Shire	URM	\$56.08	120	Bombala	RAM	\$669.48
122	Maitland City	URM	\$54.66	121	Tenterfield Shire	RAL	\$668.75
123	Orange City	URM	\$54.45	122	Walcha	RAM	\$668.25
124	Port Stephens	URM	\$53.52	123	Gunning Shire	RAM	\$667.57
125	Coffs Harbour City	URM	\$52.41	124	Cabonne	RAV	\$666.12
126	Wollongong City	URV	\$51.78	125	Tallaganda Shire	RAM	\$661.06
Average			\$50.71	126	Murray Shire	RAL	\$654.98
127	Lake Macquarie City	URV	\$49.63	127	Parkes Shire	RAV	\$651.15
128	Queanbeyan City	URS	\$49.17	128	Wellington	RAL	\$648.70
129	Ballina Shire	URM	\$48.85	129	Crookwell Shire	RAM	\$646.87
130	Byron Shire	URS	\$48.84	130	Forbes Shire	RAV	\$646.18
131	Wyong Shire	UFV	\$46.82	131	Corowa Shire	RAL	\$644.91
132	Kiama Municipal	URS	\$46.79	132	Bingara Shire	RAS	\$643.60
133	Campbelltown City	UFV	\$46.34	133	Quirindi Shire	RAM	\$643.05
134	Wollondilly Shire	UFM	\$44.69	134	Guyra Shire	RAM	\$642.10
135	Shellharbour City	URM	\$42.00	135	Narrabri Shire	RAV	\$641.51
136	Hawkesbury City	UFM	\$41.90	136	Moree Plains Shire	RAV	\$639.77
137	Penrith City	UFV	\$39.47	137	Junee Shire	RAL	\$638.86
138	Gosford City	UFV	\$38.97	138	Barraba Shire	RAM	\$637.69
139	Marrickville	UDL	\$38.92	139	Oberon	RAM	\$636.75
140	Blacktown City	UDV	\$38.44	140	Coonabarabran Shire	RAL	\$633.81
141	Fairfield City	UDV	\$36.78	141	Temora Shire	RAL	\$631.38

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
142	Camden	UFM	\$34.62	142	Walgett Shire	RAL	\$629.30
143	Liverpool City	UFV	\$34.06	143	Coolah Shire	RAM	\$628.78
144	South Sydney City	UDL	\$26.55	144	Warren Shire	RAM	\$627.35
145	Holroyd City	UDL	\$26.20	145	Berrigan Shire	RAL	\$627.33
146	Parramatta City	UDV	\$24.41	146	Harden Shire	RAM	\$625.63
147	Auburn	UDM	\$24.14	147	Lockhart Shire	RAM	\$625.16
148	Canterbury City	UDV	\$24.04	148	Culcairn Shire	RAM	\$623.88
149	Waverley	UDM	\$22.54	149	Gilgandra Shire	RAM	\$623.29
150	Botany Bay City	UDM	\$22.47	150	Narrandera Shire	RAL	\$618.89
151	Leichhardt Municipal	UDM	\$22.06	151	Coonamble Shire	RAM	\$613.49
152	Bankstown City	UDV	\$22.00	152	Narromine Shire	RAL	\$612.17
153	Ashfield Municipal	UDM	\$21.16	153	Hay Shire	RAM	\$610.94
154	Rockdale City	UDL	\$16.66	154	Merriwa Shire	RAM	\$610.15
155	Mosman Municipal	UDS	\$15.21	155	Murrumbidgee Shire	RAM	\$606.22
155	Manly	UDM	\$15.21	156	Boorowa	RAM	\$605.97
155	Ryde City	UDL	\$15.21	157	Weddin Shire	RAM	\$605.84
155	Burwood	UDM	\$15.21	158	Bogan Shire	RAM	\$604.73
155	Willoughby City	UDM	\$15.21	159	Wentworth Shire	RAL	\$604.45
155	Sutherland Shire	UDV	\$15.21	160	Yallaroi Shire	RAM	\$594.86
155	Warringah	UDV	\$15.21	161	Brewarrina Shire	RAM	\$593.93
155	Kogarah Municipal	UDM	\$15.21	162	Jerilderie Shire	RAS	\$592.06
155	Pittwater	UDM	\$15.21	163	Cobar Shire	RTL	\$591.26
155	North Sydney	UDM	\$15.21	164	Urana Shire	RAS	\$590.28
155	Baulkham Hills Shire	UFV	\$15.21	165	Coolamon Shire	RAM	\$589.20
155	Strathfield Municipal	UDS	\$15.21	166	Lachlan Shire	RAL	\$587.81
155	Hornsby Shire	UFV	\$15.21	167	Bourke Shire	RAM	\$587.71
155	Ku-ring-gai	UDL	\$15.21	168	Bland Shire	RAL	\$583.57
155	Woollahra Municipal	UDM	\$15.21	169	Conargo Shire	RAS	\$582.07
155	Randwick City	UDV	\$15.21	170	Carrathool Shire	RAM	\$581.40
155	Hurstville City	UDL	\$15.21	171	Balranald Shire	RAM	\$579.82
155	Canada Bay	UDM	\$15.21	172	Central Darling Shire	RTM	\$574.50
155	Lane Cove Municipal	UDM	\$15.21	173	Lord Howe Island (Bd)	RTX	\$0.00
155	Sydney City	UCC	\$15.21	173	Silverton Village	RTX	\$0.00
155	Hunters Hill Municipal	UDS	\$15.21	173	Tibooburra Village	RTX	\$0.00

Table E.2 Victorian councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001–02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Buloke (S)	RAL	\$239.08	1	Queenscliffe (B)	URS	\$1,833.82
2	West Wimmera (S)	RAL	\$227.22	2	Warrnambool (C)	URS	\$1,675.96
3	Loddon (S)	RAL	\$200.19	3	Wodonga (RC)	URM	\$1,673.96
4	Yarriambiack (S)	RAL	\$185.12	4	Mornington Peninsula (S)	UFL	\$1,603.67
5	Hindmarsh (S)	RAL	\$180.78	5	Melbourne (C)	UCC	\$1,583.89
6	Pyrenees (S)	RAL	\$173.38	6	Docklands Authority	UDS	\$1,582.75
7	Strathbogie (S)	RAL	\$162.92	7	Port Phillip (C)	UDL	\$1,542.26
8	Southern Grampians (S)	RAV	\$152.79	8	Yarra (C)	UDM	\$1,491.50
9	Towong (S)	RAL	\$151.37	9	Stonnington (C)	UDL	\$1,473.34
10	Ararat (RC)	URS	\$148.81	10	Darebin (C)	UDV	\$1,440.04
11	Northern Grampians (S)	RAV	\$142.99	11	Greater Geelong (C)	URV	\$1,366.36
12	Moyne (S)	RAV	\$122.49	12	Moonee Valley (C)	UDL	\$1,364.02
13	Moira (S)	URS	\$120.48	13	Moreland (C)	UDV	\$1,354.18
14	Glenelg (S)	URS	\$119.16	14	Boroondara (C)	UDV	\$1,353.38
15	Corangamite (S)	RAV	\$114.60	15	Banyule (C)	UDL	\$1,332.79
16	East Gippsland (S)	URM	\$114.52	16	Maribyrnong (C)	UDM	\$1,304.74
17	Central Goldfields (S)	RAV	\$114.01	17	Latrobe (C)	URL	\$1,303.54
18	Colac-Otway (S)	URS	\$113.59	18	Whittlesea (C)	UFL	\$1,298.50
19	Gannawarra (S)	RAV	\$113.35	19	Yarra Ranges (S)	UFV	\$1,289.11
20	Golden Plains (S)	RAV	\$113.26	20	Glen Eira (C)	UDV	\$1,284.23
21	South Gippsland (S)	URS	\$112.64	21	Ballarat (C)	URL	\$1,271.87
22	Hepburn (S)	RAV	\$108.20	22	Greater Dandenong (C)	UDV	\$1,257.71
23	Swan Hill (RC)	URS	\$106.80	23	Whitehorse (C)	UDV	\$1,251.47
24	Horsham (RC)	URS	\$104.17	24	Brimbank (C)	UDV	\$1,243.96
25	Mildura (RC)	URM	\$103.53	25	Hume (C)	UFV	\$1,240.00
26	Delatite (S)	URS	\$99.55	26	Knox (C)	UDV	\$1,232.08
27	Indigo (S)	RAV	\$99.20	27	Hobson's Bay (C)	UDL	\$1,229.14
28	Mount Alexander (S)	RAV	\$99.14	28	Manningham (C)	UDL	\$1,227.71
29	Moorabool (S)	URS	\$97.78	29	Bayside (C)	UDL	\$1,226.23
30	Wellington (S)	URM	\$97.60	30	Kingston (C)	UDV	\$1,213.49
31	Bass Coast (S)	UFS	\$95.09	31	Monash (C)	UDV	\$1,212.09
32	Campaspe (C)	URM	\$95.00	32	Maroondah (C)	UDL	\$1,181.58
33	Alpine (S)	RAV	\$92.93	33	Frankston (C)	UDL	\$1,154.03
34	Mitchell (S)	URS	\$92.82	34	Wyndham (C)	UFL	\$1,141.81

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
35	Wangaratta (RC)	URS	\$91.57	35	Casey (C)	UFV	\$1,140.16
36	Latrobe (C)	URL	\$84.19	36	Melton (S)	UFM	\$1,087.21
37	Baw Baw (S)	URM	\$83.61	37	Cardinia (S)	UFM	\$1,077.37
38	Greater Shepparton (C)	URM	\$82.36	38	Nillumbik (S)	UFM	\$1,036.00
39	Ballarat (C)	URL	\$81.04	39	Baw Baw (S)	URM	\$983.49
40	Macedon Ranges (S)	URM	\$79.94	40	Mitchell (S)	URS	\$964.33
41	Greater Bendigo (C)	URL	\$76.95	41	Macedon Ranges (S)	URM	\$963.76
42	Murrindindi (S)	RAV	\$73.61	42	South Gippsland (S)	URS	\$881.24
43	Wodonga (RC)	URM	\$73.51	43	Moorabool (S)	URS	\$870.25
44	Cardinia (S)	UFM	\$69.75	44	Surf Coast (S)	RSG	\$866.42
45	Warrnambool (C)	URS	\$66.55	45	Murrindindi (S)	RAV	\$857.41
46	Melton (S)	UFM	\$61.37	46	Bass Coast (S)	UFS	\$843.03
47	Wyndham (C)	UFL	\$60.62	47	Greater Shepparton (C)	URM	\$803.36
48	Greater Geelong (C)	URV	\$56.95	48	Greater Bendigo (C)	URL	\$789.51
49	Frankston (C)	UDL	\$54.53	49	Mount Alexander (S)	RAV	\$781.15
50	Brimbank (C)	UDV	\$52.92	50	East Gippsland (S)	URM	\$775.96
51	Surf Coast (S)	RSG	\$51.35	51	Corangamite (S)	RAV	\$775.81
Average			\$50.16	52	Alpine (S)	RAV	\$765.12
52	Yarra Ranges (S)	UFV	\$49.87	53	Wellington (S)	URM	\$757.33
53	Whittlesea (C)	UFL	\$49.63	54	Colac-Otway (S)	URS	\$743.09
54	Moreland (C)	UDV	\$48.97	55	Glenelg (S)	URS	\$703.94
55	Maribyrnong (C)	UDM	\$48.31	State average			\$693.92
56	Darebin (C)	UDV	\$46.68	56	Golden Plains (S)	RAV	\$653.41
57	Hume (C)	UFV	\$43.62	57	Wangaratta (RC)	URS	\$648.02
58	Casey (C)	UFV	\$43.13	58	Hepburn (S)	RAV	\$643.70
59	Hobson's Bay (C)	UDL	\$41.63	59	Delatite (S)	URS	\$630.72
60	Greater Dandenong (C)	UDV	\$39.21	60	Central Goldfields (S)	RAV	\$621.85
61	Banyule (C)	UDL	\$34.91	61	Towong (S)	RAL	\$570.83
62	Maroondah (C)	UDL	\$33.41	62	Moyne (S)	RAV	\$544.01
63	Nillumbik (S)	UFM	\$32.84	63	Strathbogie (S)	RAL	\$538.42
64	Knox (C)	UDV	\$30.88	64	Pyrenees (S)	RAL	\$536.81
65	Moonee Valley (C)	UDL	\$28.11	65	Southern Grampians (S)	RAV	\$534.26
66	Whitehorse (C)	UDV	\$25.92	66	Moira (S)	URS	\$501.28
67	Mornington Peninsula (S)	UFL	\$25.20	67	Campaspe (C)	URM	\$492.04
68	Queenscliffe (B)	URS	\$23.60	68	Indigo (S)	RAV	\$486.83
69	Manningham (C)	UDL	\$17.82	69	Ararat (RC)	URS	\$472.53
70	Kingston (C)	UDV	\$15.70	70	Gannawarra (S)	RAV	\$413.51

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
71	Docklands Authority	UDS	\$15.13	71	Mildura (RC)	URM	\$398.90
71	Melbourne (C)	UCC	\$15.06	72	Northern Grampians (S)	RAV	\$395.64
71	Yarra (C)	UDM	\$15.06	73	West Wimmera (S)	RAL	\$385.18
71	Stonnington (C)	UDL	\$15.06	74	Horsham (RC)	URS	\$375.79
71	Glen Eira (C)	UDV	\$15.06	75	Loddon (S)	RAL	\$360.04
71	Bayside (C)	UDL	\$15.05	76	Swan Hill (RC)	URS	\$329.69
71	Port Phillip (C)	UDL	\$15.05	77	Hindmarsh (S)	RAL	\$227.92
71	Monash (C)	UDV	\$15.05	78	Buloke (S)	RAL	\$216.41
71	Boroondara (C)	UDV	\$15.05	79	Yarriambiack (S)	RAL	\$211.04

Table E.3 Queensland councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001-02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Diamantina	RTX	\$5,087.80	1	Redcliffe	UDM	\$1,834.00
2	Croydon	RTX	\$4,806.28	2	Logan	UDV	\$1,758.95
3	Isisford	RTX	\$3,886.75	3	Brisbane	UCC	\$1,743.90
4	Ilfracombe	RTX	\$3,306.42	4	Gold Coast	URV	\$1,574.31
5	Burke	RTS	\$2,869.36	5	Sue Island (Warraber)	URS	\$1,546.33
6	Boulia	RTS	\$2,805.70	6	Toowoomba	URL	\$1,537.48
7	Perry	RAS	\$2,664.52	7	Redland	UFL	\$1,485.80
8	Bulloo	RTS	\$2,478.99	8	Bundaberg	URM	\$1,394.19
9	Warroo	RAS	\$2,217.55	9	Rockhampton	URM	\$1,357.09
10	Tambo	RTS	\$2,089.46	10	Gladstone	URS	\$1,351.80
11	Barcoo	RTS	\$1,838.22	11	Cairns	URV	\$1,284.64
12	Etheridge	RTS	\$1,761.60	12	Pine Rivers	UFL	\$1,233.38
13	Bendemere	RAS	\$1,682.17	13	Townsville	URL	\$1,222.25
14	Aramac	RTS	\$1,551.39	14	Thuringowa	UFM	\$1,179.76
15	Eidsvold	RAS	\$1,428.46	15	Maroochy	UFV	\$1,163.19
16	Peak Downs	RAM	\$1,243.20	16	Murray Island	URS	\$1,120.00
17	Jericho	RTS	\$1,210.73	17	Ipswich	UFV	\$1,119.20
18	Bungil	RAS	\$1,167.87	18	Boigu Island	URS	\$1,091.67
19	Richmond	RTM	\$1,161.93	19	Coconut Island	URS	\$1,041.50
20	Winton	RTM	\$1,115.72	20	Yam Island	URS	\$1,041.50

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
21	McKinlay	RTM	\$1,101.62	21	Caboolture	UFL	\$972.28
22	Taroom	RAM	\$1,045.11	22	Goondiwindi	URS	\$957.49
23	Broadsound	RAL	\$1,034.28	23	Caloundra	URL	\$939.05
24	Booringa	RAS	\$1,034.13	24	Yarrabah	URS	\$933.81
25	Nebo	RAM	\$1,028.33	25	Badu Island	URS	\$924.11
26	Quilpie	RTM	\$864.80	26	Dalby	URS	\$903.82
27	Carpentaria	RTM	\$847.99	27	Maryborough	URS	\$892.82
28	Biggenden	RAS	\$841.69	28	Charters Towers	URS	\$829.12
29	Yam Island	URS	\$798.36	29	Noosa	UFM	\$823.76
30	Sue Island (Warraber)	URS	\$759.62	30	Hervey Bay	URM	\$812.51
31	Barcaldine	RTM	\$756.98	31	Palm Island	URS	\$801.10
32	Tara	RAM	\$755.84	32	Mackay	URL	\$781.74
33	Blackall	RTM	\$747.12	33	Stephen Island	URS	\$773.50
34	Bauhinia	RAM	\$692.42	34	Dauan Island	URS	\$737.33
35	Yorke Island	URS	\$690.26	35	Hammond Island	URS	\$715.00
36	St Paul's Island	URS	\$680.47	36	Saibai Island	URS	\$710.14
37	Paroo	RTM	\$670.70	37	Yorke Island	URS	\$676.25
38	Badu Island	URS	\$660.43	38	Darnley Island	URS	\$661.14
39	Dalrymple	RAM	\$649.02	39	Weipa South	URS	\$642.15
40	Saibai Island	URS	\$627.57	40	Torres	URS	\$641.55
41	Waggamba	RAM	\$621.06	41	Beaudesert	UFM	\$635.18
42	Murray Island	URS	\$577.94	42	Roma	URS	\$628.42
43	Darnley Island	URS	\$576.89	43	Mabuiag Island	URS	\$622.83
44	Mabuiag Island	URS	\$563.94	44	Johnstone	UFS	\$613.49
45	Monto	RAM	\$555.38	45	Douglas	RSG	\$591.16
46	Stephen Island	URS	\$553.13	46	Whitsunday	RSG	\$584.94
47	Belyando	RAV	\$535.50	47	Atherton	RAV	\$567.15
48	Hammond Island	URS	\$535.25	48	St Paul's Island	URS	\$565.00
49	Boigu Island	URS	\$531.10	49	Sarina	RAV	\$563.93
50	Clifton	RAM	\$524.68	50	Cooloola	URM	\$558.39
51	Murilla	RAM	\$514.39	State average			\$551.60
52	Cook	RTL	\$493.07	51	Laidley	RSG	\$525.89
53	Kubin Island	URS	\$487.27	52	Seisia Island	URS	\$523.20
54	Dauan Island	URS	\$485.90	53	Woorabinda	URS	\$504.02
55	Coconut Island	URS	\$485.70	54	Livingstone	UFS	\$502.61
56	New Mapoon	URS	\$475.62	55	Mount Isa	URS	\$501.70

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
57	Duaringa	RAL	\$469.72	56	Burnett	UFS	\$500.64
58	Flinders	RTM	\$462.50	57	Cardwell	RAL	\$498.66
59	Torres	URS	\$443.70	58	Gatton	RAV	\$495.54
60	Umagico	URS	\$431.42	59	Burdekin	RAV	\$494.93
61	Mundubbera	RAM	\$410.03	60	Cherbourg	URS	\$479.97
62	Inglewood	RAM	\$394.61	61	Mount Morgan	RAM	\$472.61
63	Miriam Vale	RAM	\$383.23	62	Eacham	RAL	\$469.64
64	Gayndah	RAM	\$379.82	63	Emerald	RAV	\$462.32
65	Mornington	URS	\$373.48	64	Bamaga	URS	\$459.39
66	Wondai	RAM	\$367.19	65	Hinchinbrook	RAV	\$455.61
67	Injinoo (Cowl Ck)	URS	\$363.07	66	Calliope	RAV	\$450.66
68	Mapoon Aboriginal Council	URS	\$359.34	67	Mirani	RAL	\$450.09
69	Longreach	RTL	\$352.53	68	Jondaryan	RAV	\$446.27
70	Woocoo	RAM	\$347.27	69	Umagico	URS	\$443.68
71	Bamaga	URS	\$347.25	70	Esk	RAV	\$440.12
72	Murweh	RTL	\$332.59	71	Cambooya	RAM	\$439.22
73	Mount Morgan	RAM	\$326.56	72	Wujal Wujal	URS	\$437.45
74	Seisia Island	URS	\$320.79	73	Crow's Nest	RSG	\$434.80
75	Chinchilla	RAL	\$310.63	74	Bowen	RAV	\$430.95
76	Weipa South	URS	\$297.90	75	Kingaroy	RAV	\$429.89
77	Aurukun	URS	\$297.34	76	Boonah	RAL	\$426.76
78	Kilkivan	RAM	\$291.09	77	Murgon	RAM	\$424.28
79	Herberton	RAL	\$290.04	78	Nanango	RAL	\$424.05
80	Murgon	RAM	\$279.59	79	Warwick	URS	\$421.35
81	Kolan	RAM	\$276.26	80	Mareeba	RAV	\$420.98
82	Wambo	RAL	\$265.44	81	Stanthorpe	RAL	\$420.33
83	Wujal Wujal	URS	\$263.54	82	Isis	RAL	\$419.68
84	Kilcoy	RAM	\$220.75	83	Kubin Island	URS	\$417.24
85	Millmerran	RAM	\$213.62	84	Fitzroy	RAL	\$410.01
86	Rosalie	RAL	\$204.82	85	Tiaro	RAM	\$407.57
87	Cloncurry	RTL	\$201.96	86	Pittsworth	RAM	\$407.40
88	Balonne	RAM	\$197.00	87	Kilcoy	RAM	\$406.81
89	Tiaro	RAM	\$189.72	88	Kolan	RAM	\$400.37
90	Lockhart River	URS	\$188.76	89	Rosalie	RAL	\$398.67
91	Kowanyama	URS	\$181.82	90	Broadsound	RAL	\$398.50
92	Doomadgee	URS	\$171.19	91	Herberton	RAL	\$397.01
93	Nanango	RAL	\$158.31	92	Duaringa	RAL	\$395.73

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
94	Banana	RAV	\$151.58	93	Belyando	RAV	\$395.11
95	Eacham	RAL	\$132.09	94	Woocoo	RAM	\$393.40
96	Hopevale	URS	\$129.07	95	Miriam Vale	RAM	\$391.37
97	Warwick	URS	\$127.77	96	Aurukun	URS	\$387.32
98	Cambooya	RAM	\$121.91	97	Mapoon Aboriginal Council	URS	\$387.31
99	Palm Island	URS	\$119.93	98	Doomadgee	URS	\$386.33
100	Charters Towers	URS	\$115.82	99	New Mapoon	URS	\$385.92
101	Isis	RAL	\$110.75	100	Hopevale	URS	\$385.82
102	Stanthorpe	RAL	\$106.55	101	Mornington	URS	\$383.88
103	Fitzroy	RAL	\$103.86	102	Kilkivan	RAM	\$383.53
104	Boonah	RAL	\$102.65	103	Wondai	RAM	\$381.93
105	Yarrabah	URS	\$100.38	104	Banana	RAV	\$381.18
106	Pittsworth	RAM	\$94.48	105	Nebo	RAM	\$380.56
107	Mareeba	RAV	\$92.82	106	Gayndah	RAM	\$380.37
108	Mirani	RAL	\$92.30	107	Kowanyama	URS	\$379.00
109	Goondiwindi	URS	\$91.46	108	Clifton	RAM	\$378.19
110	Kingaroy	RAV	\$89.94	109	Injino (Cowl Ck)	URS	\$375.49
111	Calliope	RAV	\$89.79	110	Peak Downs	RAM	\$373.92
112	Roma	URS	\$80.96	111	Mundubbera	RAM	\$373.78
113	Crow's Nest	RSG	\$77.62	112	Biggenden	RAS	\$372.02
114	Pormpuraaw	URS	\$73.84	113	Wambo	RAL	\$371.83
115	Mount Isa	URS	\$72.44	114	Inglewood	RAM	\$370.26
116	Dalby	URS	\$68.49	115	Monto	RAM	\$368.67
117	Cherbourg	URS	\$67.55	116	Lockhart River	URS	\$368.57
118	Bowen	RAV	\$66.59	117	Millmerran	RAM	\$367.65
119	Woorabinda	URS	\$65.59	118	Pormpuraaw	URS	\$367.46
120	Hinchinbrook	RAV	\$63.72	119	Longreach	RTL	\$366.19
121	Livingstone	UFS	\$58.43	120	Murilla	RAM	\$365.77
122	Sarina	RAV	\$55.14	121	Chinchilla	RAL	\$365.25
123	Johnstone	UFS	\$54.91	122	Balonne	RAM	\$364.60
124	Jondaryan	RAV	\$51.38	123	Tara	RAM	\$363.24
Average			\$50.72	124	Cloncurry	RTL	\$363.03
125	Maryborough	URS	\$49.29	125	Waggamba	RAM	\$361.65
126	Cooloolo	URM	\$46.55	126	Murweh	RTL	\$361.61
127	Esk	RAV	\$45.60	127	Cook	RTL	\$360.66
128	Cardwell	RAL	\$41.31	128	Barcaldine	RTM	\$360.33

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
129	Hervey Bay	URM	\$40.99	129	Blackall	RTM	\$359.59
130	Gladstone	URS	\$35.20	130	Carpentaria	RTM	\$359.40
131	Douglas	RSG	\$34.23	131	Bauhinia	RAM	\$359.01
132	Bundaberg	URM	\$31.62	132	Bendemere	RAS	\$358.22
133	Burnett	UFS	\$31.30	133	Taroom	RAM	\$357.48
134	Burdekin	RAV	\$31.15	134	Bungil	RAS	\$356.05
135	Gatton	RAV	\$29.36	135	Flinders	RTM	\$355.82
136	Townsville	URL	\$27.76	136	Dalrymple	RAM	\$355.39
137	Ipswich	UFV	\$26.10	137	Paroo	RTM	\$354.96
138	Laidley	RSG	\$25.76	138	Perry	RAS	\$354.36
139	Atherton	RAV	\$25.72	139	Ilfracombe	RTX	\$353.84
140	Mackay	URL	\$24.38	140	Booringa	RAS	\$353.83
141	Whitsunday	RSG	\$22.63	141	Eidsvold	RAS	\$353.67
142	Thuringowa	UFM	\$22.57	142	Jericho	RTS	\$353.61
143	Emerald	RAV	\$22.37	143	Richmond	RTM	\$353.58
144	Rockhampton	URM	\$20.65	144	Tambo	RTS	\$353.53
145	Cairns	URV	\$16.97	145	McKinlay	RTM	\$352.55
146	Noosa	UFM	\$16.31	146	Aramac	RTS	\$352.54
147	Toowoomba	URL	\$15.40	147	Warroo	RAS	\$352.27
148	Redcliffe	UDM	\$15.13	148	Winton	RTM	\$351.74
148	Caloundra	URL	\$15.13	149	Burke	RTS	\$351.74
148	Redland	UFL	\$15.13	150	Etheridge	RTS	\$350.99
148	Logan	UDV	\$15.13	151	Quilpie	RTM	\$350.81
148	Maroochy	UFV	\$15.13	152	Boulia	RTS	\$350.36
148	Pine Rivers	UFL	\$15.13	153	Isisford	RTX	\$349.33
148	Gold Coast	URV	\$15.13	154	Diamantina	RTX	\$349.11
148	Brisbane	UCC	\$15.13	155	Barcoo	RTS	\$349.10
148	Beaudesert	UFM	\$15.13	156	Croydon	RTX	\$349.03
148	Caboolture	UFL	\$15.13	157	Bulloo	RTS	\$348.20

Table E.4 Western Australian councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001-02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Murchison (S)	RTX	\$5,351.61	1	Perth (C)	UCC	\$3,557.17
2	Sandstone (S)	RTX	\$3,431.47	2	Geraldton (C)	URS	\$2,182.52
3	Upper Gascoyne (S)	RTX	\$2,539.19	3	Subiaco (C)	UDS	\$1,846.46
4	Yalgoo (S)	RTX	\$1,702.79	4	Vincent (T)	UDS	\$1,825.50
5	Menzies (S)	RTX	\$1,460.04	5	Bunbury (C)	URS	\$1,811.91
6	Cue (S)	RTX	\$1,213.47	6	Victoria Park (T)	UDS	\$1,658.42
7	Nungarin (S)	RAS	\$1,212.99	7	Fremantle (C)	UDS	\$1,647.12
8	Westonia (S)	RAS	\$1,009.89	8	Narrogin (T)	URS	\$1,607.43
9	Ngaanyatjarraku (S)	RTM	\$900.68	9	Bayswater (C)	UDM	\$1,550.39
10	Trayning (S)	RAS	\$842.30	10	Belmont (C)	UDS	\$1,545.13
11	Koorda (S)	RAS	\$814.84	11	Cambridge (T)	UDS	\$1,543.16
12	Tammin (S)	RAS	\$724.00	12	Northam (T)	URS	\$1,541.06
13	Mount Marshall (S)	RAS	\$718.96	13	Canning (C)	UDL	\$1,523.93
14	Shark Bay (S)	RTS	\$718.36	14	Claremont (T)	UDS	\$1,520.60
15	Mount Magnet (S)	RTS	\$711.85	15	Stirling (C)	UDV	\$1,484.31
16	Laverton (S)	RTM	\$648.85	16	South Perth (C)	UDM	\$1,466.73
17	Perenjori (S)	RAS	\$637.16	17	Cottesloe (T)	UDS	\$1,454.72
18	Wyalkatchem (S)	RAS	\$566.70	18	Bassendean (T)	UDS	\$1,453.40
19	Woodanilling (S)	RAS	\$548.72	19	Nedlands (C)	UDS	\$1,421.19
20	Bruce Rock (S)	RAS	\$535.33	20	East Fremantle (T)	UDS	\$1,382.95
21	Dowerin (S)	RAS	\$521.95	21	Joondalup (C)	UFV	\$1,366.59
22	Mukinbudin (S)	RAS	\$498.86	22	Melville (C)	UDL	\$1,362.87
23	Halls Creek (S)	RTL	\$478.87	23	Gosnells (C)	UFL	\$1,347.11
24	Wiluna (S)	RTM	\$461.00	24	Donnybrook-Balingup (S)	RAM	\$1,304.24
25	Carnamah (S)	RAS	\$458.22	25	Mosman Park (T)	UDS	\$1,298.83
26	Dumbleyung (S)	RAS	\$433.43	26	Wanneroo (C)	UFL	\$1,289.55
27	Kellerberrin (S)	RAS	\$420.61	27	Peppermint Grove (S)	UDS	\$1,284.45
28	Morawa (S)	RAS	\$418.63	28	Cockburn (C)	UFM	\$1,233.83
29	Wickepin (S)	RAS	\$418.60	29	Kwinana (T)	UFS	\$1,205.43
30	Narembeen (S)	RAS	\$413.33	30	Rockingham (C)	UFM	\$1,197.16
31	Cuballing (S)	RAS	\$398.22	31	Mandurah (C)	URM	\$1,189.14
32	Quairading (S)	RAS	\$393.56	32	Kalamunda (S)	UFM	\$1,116.86
33	Corrigin (S)	RAS	\$381.69	33	Armadale (C)	UFM	\$1,087.76
34	Three Springs (S)	RAS	\$377.71	34	Swan (S)	UFL	\$1,087.12

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
35	Meekatharra (S)	RTM	\$374.16	35	Toodyay (S)	RAM	\$993.83
36	Exmouth (S)	RTM	\$372.37	36	Mundaring (S)	UFM	\$987.49
37	Dalwallinu (S)	RAS	\$368.70	37	Collie (S)	RAL	\$954.75
38	Tambellup (S)	RAS	\$367.32	38	Port Hedland (T)	URS	\$914.51
39	Broomehill (S)	RAS	\$365.11	39	Roebourne (S)	URS	\$903.59
40	Derby-West Kimberley (S)	RTL	\$364.40	40	Serpentine-Jarrahdale (S)	RSG	\$883.48
41	Wandering (S)	RAS	\$361.52	41	Capel (S)	RSG	\$866.80
42	Dundas (S)	RTM	\$353.97	42	Beverly (S)	RAS	\$858.60
43	Mingenew (S)	RAS	\$338.30	43	Augusta-Margaret River (S)	RSG	\$850.01
44	Narrogin (S)	RAS	\$336.42	44	Nannup (S)	RAS	\$849.08
45	Cunderdin (S)	RAS	\$335.32	45	Murray (S)	RSG	\$820.74
46	Kulin (S)	RAS	\$331.92	46	Dardanup (S)	RSG	\$820.04
47	Wongan-Ballidu (S)	RAS	\$323.40	47	Busselton (S)	RSG	\$785.18
48	Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	RTL	\$322.96	48	Broome (S)	RTL	\$772.65
49	Nannup (S)	RAS	\$309.48	49	West Arthur (S)	RAS	\$738.85
50	Carnarvon (S)	RAL	\$305.90	50	Exmouth (S)	RTM	\$735.53
51	Pingelly (S)	RAS	\$298.19	51	Northam (S)	RAM	\$733.64
52	Kent (S)	RAS	\$281.46	52	Manjimup (S)	RAV	\$732.80
53	Kondinin (S)	RAS	\$280.75	53	Waroona (S)	RAM	\$731.18
54	Ashburton (S)	RTL	\$275.23	54	Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	RTL	\$726.77
55	East Pilbara (S)	RTL	\$262.44	55	Kalgoorlie/Boulder (C)	URM	\$710.00
56	Brookton (S)	RAS	\$256.09	56	Albany (C)	URS	\$685.76
57	Coorow (S)	RAS	\$250.71	57	Bridgetown-Greenbushes (S)	RAM	\$683.43
58	Ravensthorpe (S)	RAS	\$228.02	58	York (S)	RAM	\$675.77
59	Cranbrook (S)	RAS	\$225.20	59	Harvey (S)	RSG	\$675.13
60	Chapman Valley (S)	RAS	\$220.57	60	Gingin (S)	RAM	\$646.55
61	Goomalling (S)	RAS	\$215.36	61	Greenough (S)	RSG	\$621.95
62	Wagin (S)	RAS	\$205.66	62	Chittering (S)	RAM	\$582.57
63	Jerramungup (S)	RAS	\$204.86	63	Cuballing (S)	RAS	\$544.05
64	Beverly (S)	RAS	\$199.23	State average			\$537.91
65	Mullewa (S)	RAS	\$198.68	64	Wagin (S)	RAS	\$528.85
66	Lake Grace (S)	RAS	\$196.14	65	Katanning (S)	RAM	\$510.65
67	Merredin (S)	RAM	\$185.38	66	Halls Creek (S)	RTL	\$506.44
68	Gnowangerup (S)	RAS	\$184.68	67	Bruce Rock (S)	RAS	\$505.91

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
69	Yilgarn (S)	RAM	\$182.37	68	Ngaanyatjarraku (S)	RTM	\$492.74
70	Leonora (S)	RTM	\$174.44	69	Moora (S)	RAM	\$482.81
71	Broome (S)	RTL	\$171.97	70	Quairading (S)	RAS	\$471.29
72	Katanning (S)	RAM	\$166.32	71	Broomehill (S)	RAS	\$468.78
73	Roebourne (S)	URS	\$163.62	72	Pingelly (S)	RAS	\$465.88
74	Northam (S)	RAM	\$156.69	73	Wandering (S)	RAS	\$464.49
75	Boyup Brook (S)	RAS	\$156.63	74	Boddington (S)	RAS	\$455.34
76	Victoria Plains (S)	RAS	\$156.03	75	East Pilbara (S)	RTL	\$454.93
77	Bridgetown-Greenbushes (S)	RAM	\$150.57	76	Carnarvon (S)	RAL	\$452.72
78	Northampton (S)	RAM	\$143.97	77	Denmark (S)	RAM	\$452.01
79	Toodyay (S)	RAM	\$137.82	78	Cunderdin (S)	RAS	\$447.18
80	Kojonup (S)	RAM	\$132.24	79	Woodanilling (S)	RAS	\$444.36
81	Donnybrook-Balingup (S)	RAM	\$130.92	80	Kojonup (S)	RAM	\$442.95
82	York (S)	RAM	\$127.96	81	Irwin (S)	RAM	\$435.12
83	Moora (S)	RAM	\$126.45	82	Three Springs (S)	RAS	\$431.70
84	West Arthur (S)	RAS	\$126.03	83	Dandaragan (S)	RAM	\$430.79
85	Boddington (S)	RAS	\$124.32	84	Kellerberrin (S)	RAS	\$428.36
86	Manjimup (S)	RAV	\$123.03	85	Mingenew (S)	RAS	\$424.70
87	Narrogin (T)	URS	\$119.99	86	Northampton (S)	RAM	\$422.73
88	Northam (T)	URS	\$119.37	87	Goomalling (S)	RAS	\$420.41
89	Collie (S)	RAL	\$116.54	88	Shark Bay (S)	RTS	\$416.60
90	Waroona (S)	RAM	\$114.36	89	Tambellup (S)	RAS	\$415.99
91	Dandaragan (S)	RAM	\$111.83	90	Boyup Brook (S)	RAS	\$413.26
92	Port Hedland (T)	URS	\$111.61	91	Narrogin (S)	RAS	\$412.53
93	Chittering (S)	RAM	\$108.51	92	Corrigin (S)	RAS	\$412.20
94	Esperance (S)	RAV	\$107.21	93	Wongan-Ballidu (S)	RAS	\$411.43
95	Coolgardie (S)	URS	\$103.16	94	Merredin (S)	RAM	\$406.84
96	Irwin (S)	RAM	\$98.96	95	Esperance (S)	RAV	\$406.46
97	Denmark (S)	RAM	\$96.57	96	Trayning (S)	RAS	\$406.02
98	Murray (S)	RSG	\$79.95	97	Mount Magnet (S)	RTS	\$404.68
99	Capel (S)	RSG	\$77.90	98	Plantagenet (S)	RAM	\$403.69
100	Serpentine-Jarrahdale (S)	RSG	\$77.00	99	Coorow (S)	RAS	\$397.22
101	Gingin (S)	RAM	\$66.80	100	Carnamah (S)	RAS	\$397.09
102	Plantagenet (S)	RAM	\$66.05	101	Brookton (S)	RAS	\$394.19
103	Albany (C)	URS	\$65.98	102	Wyalkatchem (S)	RAS	\$389.32
104	Greenough (S)	RSG	\$65.08	103	Tammin (S)	RAS	\$388.29
105	Dardanup (S)	RSG	\$59.81	104	Gnowangerup (S)	RAS	\$386.55

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
106	Mundaring (S)	UFM	\$55.77	105	Wickepin (S)	RAS	\$384.77
107	Geraldton (C)	URS	\$55.03	106	Dalwallinu (S)	RAS	\$383.90
Average			\$50.15	107	Morawa (S)	RAS	\$383.44
108	Williams (S)	RAS	\$48.75	108	Derby-West Kimberley (S)	RTL	\$381.85
109	Augusta-Margaret River (S)	RSG	\$46.29	109	Dowerin (S)	RAS	\$381.25
110	Harvey (S)	RSG	\$43.85	110	Koorda (S)	RAS	\$380.57
111	Kalgoorlie/Boulder (C)	URM	\$42.60	111	Williams (S)	RAS	\$379.73
112	Armadale (C)	UFM	\$35.70	112	Cranbrook (S)	RAS	\$379.69
113	Kalamunda (S)	UFM	\$27.16	113	Dumbleyung (S)	RAS	\$377.05
114	Bunbury (C)	URS	\$26.19	114	Ashburton (S)	RTL	\$375.87
115	Bassendean (T)	UDS	\$20.89	115	Nungarin (S)	RAS	\$372.16
116	Wanneroo (C)	UFL	\$15.72	116	Westonia (S)	RAS	\$369.44
117	Busselton (S)	RSG	\$15.53	117	Victoria Plains (S)	RAS	\$368.89
118	Gosnells (C)	UFL	\$15.52	118	Mukinbudin (S)	RAS	\$365.26
119	Kwinana (T)	UFS	\$15.11	119	Chapman Valley (S)	RAS	\$364.24
120	Mosman Park (T)	UDS	\$15.04	120	Kulin (S)	RAS	\$360.59
120	Perth (C)	UCC	\$15.04	121	Narembeen (S)	RAS	\$359.34
120	Subiaco (C)	UDS	\$15.04	122	Cue (S)	RTX	\$358.93
120	Victoria Park (T)	UDS	\$15.04	123	Coolgardie (S)	URS	\$358.04
120	Bayswater (C)	UDM	\$15.04	124	Sandstone (S)	RTX	\$340.25
120	Cockburn (C)	UFM	\$15.04	125	Jerramungup (S)	RAS	\$339.95
120	Melville (C)	UDL	\$15.04	126	Mount Marshall (S)	RAS	\$336.31
120	South Perth (C)	UDM	\$15.04	127	Dundas (S)	RTM	\$333.83
120	Belmont (C)	UDS	\$15.04	128	Lake Grace (S)	RAS	\$330.94
120	Canning (C)	UDL	\$15.04	129	Kondinin (S)	RAS	\$328.42
120	Joondalup (C)	UFV	\$15.04	130	Perenjori (S)	RAS	\$321.87
120	Stirling (C)	UDV	\$15.04	131	Ravensthorpe (S)	RAS	\$320.12
120	East Fremantle (T)	UDS	\$15.04	132	Kent (S)	RAS	\$309.83
120	Swan (S)	UFL	\$15.04	133	Leonora (S)	RTM	\$306.77
120	Rockingham (C)	UFM	\$15.04	134	Mullewa (S)	RAS	\$298.19
120	Mandurah (C)	URM	\$15.04	135	Yalgoo (S)	RTX	\$296.03
120	Fremantle (C)	UDS	\$15.04	136	Upper Gascoyne (S)	RTX	\$287.26
120	Cambridge (T)	UDS	\$15.04	137	Wiluna (S)	RTM	\$273.65
120	Vincent (T)	UDS	\$15.04	138	Yilgarn (S)	RAM	\$271.45
120	Cottesloe (T)	UDS	\$15.04	139	Meekatharra (S)	RTM	\$268.52
120	Nedlands (C)	UDS	\$15.04	140	Menzies (S)	RTX	\$256.99
120	Claremont (T)	UDS	\$15.04	141	Murchison (S)	RTX	\$251.12
120	Peppermint Grove (S)	UDS	\$15.04	142	Laverton (S)	RTM	\$251.09

Table E.5 South Australian councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001-02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Le Hunte (DC)	RAS	\$463.12	1	Campbelltown (C)	UDM	\$3,154.82
2	Peterborough (DC)	RAM	\$347.71	2	Charles Sturt (C)	UDL	\$1,702.38
3	Karoonda-East Murray (DC)	RAS	\$345.51	3	Victor Harbor	RAV	\$1,669.94
4	Franklin Harbour (DC)	RAS	\$343.74	4	Salisbury (C)	UDL	\$1,513.72
5	Orroroo/Carrieton (DC)	RAS	\$339.36	5	Unley (C)	UDM	\$1,445.55
6	Streaky Bay (DC)	RAS	\$337.42	6	Prospect (C)	UDS	\$1,410.39
7	Flinders Ranges	RAS	\$320.67	7	Walkerville (M)	UDS	\$1,380.11
8	Kimba (DC)	RAS	\$319.64	8	Norwood Payneham and St Peters (C)	UDM	\$1,354.23
9	Anangu Pitjantjatjara	RTM	\$315.33	9	Gawler (M)	UFS	\$1,332.52
10	Maralinga	RTX	\$315.33	10	Holdfast Bay (C)	UDM	\$1,331.03
11	Ceduna (DC)	RAM	\$315.33	11	West Torrens Thebarton (C)	UDM	\$1,301.47
12	Elliston (DC)	RAS	\$288.13	12	Marion (C)	UDL	\$1,283.01
13	Cleve (DC)	RAS	\$287.52	13	Adelaide (C)	UCC	\$1,255.94
14	Yalata	RTX	\$273.29	14	Burnside (C)	UDM	\$1,219.78
15	Nepabunna	RTX	\$262.77	15	Port Adelaide Enfield	UDL	\$1,194.69
16	Southern Mallee (DC)	RAM	\$257.96	16	Mount Gambier (C)	URS	\$1,189.85
17	Goyder (RG)	RAM	\$253.22	17	Gerard	RTX	\$1,182.40
18	Mount Remarkable (DC)	RAM	\$243.50	18	Nepabunna	RTX	\$1,177.20
19	Gerard	RTX	\$231.24	19	Tea Tree Gully (C)	UDL	\$1,168.59
20	Mid Murray	RAL	\$201.62	20	Mitcham (C)	UDM	\$1,158.32
21	Cooper Pedy (DC)	URS	\$195.36	21	Onkaparinga (DC)	UFV	\$1,093.45
22	Kangaroo Island	RAM	\$186.02	22	Roxby Downs (M)	URS	\$992.09
23	Coorong (DC)	RAL	\$176.35	23	Whyalla (C)	URS	\$954.05
24	Port Augusta (C)	URS	\$169.30	24	Playford (C)	UFM	\$896.36
25	Outback Areas Community Development Trust	RTL	\$159.43	25	Port Lincoln (C)	URS	\$887.92
26	Port Pirie (C&DC)	RAV	\$149.66	26	Port Augusta (C)	URS	\$442.47
27	Wakefield (RG)	RAL	\$144.05	27	Coorong (DC)	RAL	\$440.72
28	Northern Areas	RAL	\$133.94	28	Adelaide Hills	UFM	\$430.62
29	Naracoorte Lucindale	RAL	\$133.76	29	Cooper Pedy (DC)	URS	\$424.86
30	Renmark Paringa (DC)	RAL	\$133.24	30	Barossa	RAV	\$412.18

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
31	Whyalla (C)	URS	\$132.13	31	Kimba (DC)	RAS	\$375.83
32	Loxton Waikerie (DC)	RAV	\$127.61	32	Mount Barker (DC)	URS	\$364.89
33	Tatiara (DC)	RAL	\$123.49	33	Berri and Barmera	RAV	\$357.55
34	Tumby Bay (DC)	RAM	\$111.81	State average			\$313.55
35	Barunga West (DC)	RAM	\$110.39	34	Northern Areas	RAL	\$310.07
36	Murray Bridge (DC)	RAV	\$106.32	35	Renmark Paringa (DC)	RAL	\$306.94
37	Copper Coast (DC)	RAV	\$99.30	36	Light RC	RAV	\$303.49
38	Berri and Barmera	RAV	\$95.00	37	Karoonda-East Murray (DC)	RAS	\$286.16
39	Yorke Peninsula (DC)	RAV	\$93.72	38	Murray Bridge (DC)	RAV	\$256.43
40	Kingston (DC)	RAM	\$90.86	39	Port Pirie (C&DC)	RAV	\$249.76
41	Grant (DC)	RAL	\$89.24	40	Alexandrina	RAV	\$216.36
42	Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	RAM	\$86.85	41	Kingston (DC)	RAM	\$207.19
43	Wattle Range	RAV	\$85.19	42	Naracoorte Lucindale	RAL	\$195.88
44	Playford (C)	UFM	\$83.20	43	Loxton Waikerie (DC)	RAV	\$193.84
45	Mallala (DC)	RAL	\$78.05	44	Copper Coast (DC)	RAV	\$184.49
46	Salisbury (C)	UDL	\$65.65	45	Elliston (DC)	RAS	\$181.76
47	Port Lincoln (C)	URS	\$62.48	46	Southern Mallee (DC)	RAM	\$180.27
48	Clare and Gilbert Valleys	RAL	\$54.09	47	Tatiara (DC)	RAL	\$178.79
49	Robe (DC)	RAS	\$51.22	48	Kangaroo Island	RAM	\$173.70
Average			\$50.35	49	Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	RAM	\$169.40
50	Onkaparinga (DC)	UFV	\$40.07	50	Yankalilla (DC)	RAM	\$159.07
51	Gawler (M)	UFS	\$33.57	51	Robe (DC)	RAS	\$155.83
52	Mount Gambier (C)	URS	\$29.36	52	Flinders Ranges	RAS	\$154.13
53	Port Adelaide Enfield	UDL	\$27.85	53	Mallala (DC)	RAL	\$152.29
54	Light RC	RAV	\$27.27	54	Franklin Harbour (DC)	RAS	\$151.34
55	Adelaide Hills	UFM	\$25.31	55	Streaky Bay (DC)	RAS	\$151.24
56	Alexandrina	RAV	\$24.37	56	Ceduna (DC)	RAM	\$146.53
57	Barossa	RAV	\$24.13	57	Tumby Bay (DC)	RAM	\$143.58
58	Adelaide (C)	UCC	\$23.76	58	Cleve (DC)	RAS	\$142.75
59	Yankalilla (DC)	RAM	\$21.78	59	Le Hunte (DC)	RAS	\$141.77
60	Tea Tree Gully (C)	UDL	\$18.21	60	Wattle Range	RAV	\$140.42
61	Marion (C)	UDL	\$18.20	61	Grant (DC)	RAL	\$136.00
62	Campbelltown (C)	UDM	\$17.74	62	Yorke Peninsula (DC)	RAV	\$131.20
63	Charles Sturt (C)	UDL	\$17.42	63	Clare and Gilbert Valleys	RAL	\$130.23
64	Mount Barker (DC)	URS	\$17.20	64	Peterborough (DC)	RAM	\$127.46

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
65	West Torrens Thebarton (C)	UDM	\$16.38	65	Goyder (RG)	RAM	\$126.99
66	Holdfast Bay (C)	UDM	\$15.14	66	Yalata	RTX	\$125.93
67	Victor Harbor	RAV	\$15.13	67	Barunga West (DC)	RAM	\$125.50
68	Roxby Downs (M)	URS	\$15.10	68	Mid Murray	RAL	\$119.79
68	Unley (C)	UDM	\$15.10	69	Wakefield (RG)	RAL	\$117.44
68	Walkerville (M)	UDS	\$15.10	70	Mount Remarkable (DC)	RAM	\$112.32
68	Burnside (C)	UDM	\$15.10	71	Anangu Pitjantjatjara	RTM	\$110.93
68	Mitcham (C)	UDM	\$15.10	72	Orroroo/Carrieton (DC)	RAS	\$98.30
68	Norwood Payneham and St Peters (C)	UDM	\$15.10	73	Maralinga	RTX	\$0.00
68	Prospect (C)	UDS	\$15.10	73	Outback Areas Community Developm't Trust	RTL	\$0.00

Table E.6 Tasmanian councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001-02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Flinders (M)	RAS	\$445.21	1	Hobart (C)	UCC	\$3,427.32
2	Central Highlands (M)	RAM	\$229.69	2	Glenorchy (C)	URM	\$2,753.49
3	King Island (M)	RAS	\$210.51	3	Devonport (C)	URS	\$2,552.58
4	Southern Midlands (M)	RAL	\$138.52	4	West Coast (M)	RAL	\$2,279.17
5	Kentish (M)	RAL	\$126.64	5	Launceston (C)	URM	\$2,247.85
6	Break O'day (M)	RAL	\$126.44	6	Brighton (M)	URS	\$2,138.83
7	West Coast (M)	RAL	\$125.77	7	Burnie (C)	URS	\$1,986.00
8	Tasman (M)	RAM	\$124.97	8	Clarence (C)	URM	\$1,896.39
9	Dorset (M)	RAL	\$111.93	9	Break O'day (M)	RAL	\$1,750.87
10	Glamorgan - Spring Bay (M)	RAM	\$104.28	10	Central Coast (M)	URS	\$1,646.57
11	Northern Midlands (M)	RAV	\$103.21	11	Sorell (M)	RAV	\$1,632.90
12	Circular Head (M)	RAL	\$100.40	State average			\$1,617.27
13	George Town (M)	RAL	\$86.94	12	Southern Midlands (M)	RAL	\$1,587.86
14	Meander Valley (M)	RAV	\$70.55	13	Dorset (M)	RAL	\$1,587.39
15	Huon Valley (M)	RAV	\$70.52	14	Waratah - Wynyard (M)	RAV	\$1,563.84
16	Waratah - Wynyard (M)	RAV	\$70.45	15	Meander Valley (M)	RAV	\$1,559.17
17	Central Coast (M)	URS	\$64.51	16	Kingborough (M)	URS	\$1,521.64
18	Derwent Valley (M)	RAL	\$63.14	17	Derwent Valley (M)	RAL	\$1,504.57

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
19	Sorell (M)	RAV	\$60.84	18	Kentish (M)	RAL	\$1,502.16
20	Latrobe (M)	RAL	\$60.37	19	George Town (M)	RAL	\$1,465.96
21	Brighton (M)	URS	\$56.68	20	Northern Midlands (M)	RAV	\$1,430.70
22	West Tamar (M)	UFS	\$54.49	21	Huon Valley (M)	RAV	\$1,406.21
Average			\$50.10	22	Latrobe (M)	RAL	\$1,393.32
23	Burnie (C)	URS	\$47.91	23	Glamorgan - Spring Bay (M)	RAM	\$1,368.03
24	Kingborough (M)	URS	\$34.55	24	West Tamar (M)	UFS	\$1,364.00
25	Devonport (C)	URS	\$31.45	25	Circular Head (M)	RAL	\$1,275.50
26	Launceston (C)	URM	\$26.77	26	Central Highlands (M)	RAM	\$1,142.54
27	Clarence (C)	URM	\$25.19	27	Tasman (M)	RAM	\$1,125.93
28	Glenorchy (C)	URM	\$15.03	28	King Island (M)	RAS	\$1,018.00
28	Hobart (C)	UCC	\$15.03	29	Flinders (M)	RAS	\$1,009.67

Table E.7 Northern Territory councils ranked by financial assistance grant funding, by per capita and kilometre, 2001-02

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
1	Ikuntji	RTX	\$402.54	1	Tennant Creek (T)	URS	\$5,408.79
2	Peppimernarti	RTX	\$382.29	2	Binjari	RTX	\$4,056.80
3	Milyakburra	RTX	\$296.85	3	Cox Peninsula	RTX	\$3,253.31
4	Imanpa	RTX	\$286.04	4	Darwin (C)	UCC	\$2,937.86
5	Aputula	RTX	\$246.64	5	Alice Springs (T)	URS	\$2,901.23
6	Nyirripi	RTX	\$240.08	6	Palmerston (T)	UFS	\$2,756.46
7	Yuelamu	RTX	\$235.46	7	Jabiru (T)	URS	\$2,689.21
8	Wallace Rockhole	RTX	\$222.93	8	Katherine (T)	URS	\$2,625.52
9	Arltarlpita	RTX	\$217.53	9	Borrooloola	RTS	\$2,420.00
10	Minjilang	RTX	\$215.97	10	Litchfield (S)	RAV	\$2,151.41
11	Gulin Gulin and Weemol	RTX	\$207.68	11	Mataranka	RTX	\$2,079.57
12	Kaltukatjara	RTX	\$206.38	12	Amoonguna	RTX	\$1,844.00
13	Jilkminggan	RTX	\$201.04	13	Pine Creek	RTS	\$1,760.97
14	Watiyawanu (Mt Liebig)	RTX	\$200.25	14	Timber Creek	RTX	\$1,713.39
15	Areyonga	RTX	\$198.95	15	Marngarra	RTX	\$1,690.33
16	Walungurru	RTS	\$184.80	16	Coomalie (CGC)	RTM	\$1,580.87

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
17	Warruwi	RTX	\$184.08	17	Jilkmिंगgan	RTX	\$1,267.75
18	Papunya	RTX	\$178.84	18	Warruwi	RTX	\$1,244.99
19	Nganmariyanga (Palumpa)	RTX	\$168.10	19	Peppimenarti	RTX	\$1,240.53
20	Aherrenge (Arunga)	RTX	\$164.59	20	Gulin Gulin and Weemol	RTX	\$1,229.94
21	Tapatijatjaka	RTX	\$163.62	21	Milingimbi	RTS	\$1,151.00
22	Walingeri-Ngumpinku	RTX	\$152.37	22	Imanpa	RTX	\$1,127.40
23	Umbakumba	RTS	\$149.91	23	Daguragu	RTS	\$1,080.39
24	Ramingining	RTS	\$148.51	24	Minjilang	RTX	\$1,014.63
25	Belyuen	RTX	\$146.62	25	Angurugu	RTS	\$973.51
26	Timber Creek	RTX	\$146.10	26	Yugal Mangi	RTM	\$958.26
27	Kunbarllanjja	RTS	\$139.64	27	Yirrkala/Dhanbul	RTS	\$950.61
28	Barunga Manyallaluk	RTS	\$137.69	28	Naiyu Nambiyu	RTS	\$934.50
29	Amoonguna	RTX	\$137.01	29	Wallace Rockhole	RTX	\$881.91
30	Kardu Numida	RTM	\$134.36	30	Areyonga	RTX	\$802.68
31	Ali Curung	RTS	\$131.55	31	Tiwi Island	RTM	\$788.59
32	Binjari	RTX	\$130.90	State average			\$770.39
33	Urapuntja	RTS	\$130.66	32	Aherrenge (Arunga)	RTX	\$703.22
34	Yugal Mangi	RTM	\$128.61	33	Alpurrurulam	RTS	\$699.45
35	Naiyu Nambiyu	RTS	\$122.85	34	Elliott District	RTS	\$699.45
36	Tiwi Island	RTM	\$115.74	35	Umbakumba	RTS	\$697.14
37	Ntaria	RTS	\$112.65	36	Ramingining	RTS	\$674.24
38	Marngarr	RTX	\$112.16	37	Barunga Manyallaluk	RTS	\$659.54
39	Yuendumu	RTM	\$111.46	38	Arltarpilta	RTX	\$633.88
40	Gapuwiyak	RTS	\$105.58	39	Wugularr	RTS	\$611.09
41	Ltyentye Purte (Santa Teresa)	RTS	\$104.45	40	Ltyentye Purte (Santa Teresa)	RTS	\$605.81
42	Milingimbi	RTS	\$103.92	41	Kunbarllanjja	RTS	\$601.82
43	Daguragu	RTS	\$103.16	42	Anmatjere	RTM	\$493.39
44	Numbulwar/Numburindi	RTS	\$102.28	43	Kardu Numida	RTM	\$460.08
45	Anmatjere	RTM	\$100.72	44	Aputula	RTX	\$449.56
46	Galiwinku	RTM	\$100.18	45	Numbulwar/Numburindi	RTS	\$438.53
47	Alpurrurulam	RTS	\$91.45	46	Galiwinku	RTM	\$419.21
48	Lajamanu	RTM	\$90.73	47	Gapuwiyak	RTS	\$415.67
49	Maningrida	RTM	\$89.96	48	Maningrida	RTM	\$396.00
50	Wugularr	RTS	\$87.65	49	Milyakburra	RTX	\$390.08
51	Angurugu	RTS	\$86.08	50	Tapatijatjaka	RTX	\$362.21
52	Elliott District	RTS	\$81.24	51	Ali Curung	RTS	\$331.19

Councils ranked by funding per capita				Councils ranked by funding per kilometre			
Rank	Local government area	Classification	GP grant per capita	Rank	Local government area	Classification	Local roads per km
53	Tennant Creek (T)	URS	\$74.97	52	Nganmarriyanga (Palumpa)	RTX	\$320.22
54	Borrooloola	RTS	\$71.69	53	Trust Account	ZZZ	\$315.47
55	Yirrkala/Dhanbul	RTS	\$70.51	54	Walungurru	RTS	\$302.68
56	Mataranka	RTX	\$57.57	55	Belyuen	RTX	\$291.71
57	Cox Peninsula	RTX	\$52.94	56	Ikuntji	RTX	\$290.51
58	Coomalie (CGC)	RTM	\$51.53	57	Yuelamu	RTX	\$284.66
59	Katherine (T)	URS	\$50.41	58	Kaltukatjara	RTX	\$267.21
Average			\$49.99	59	Nyirripi	RTX	\$258.19
60	Litchfield (S)	RAV	\$49.62	60	Watiyawanu (Mt Liebig)	RTX	\$253.55
61	Pine Creek	RTS	\$44.51	61	Ntaria	RTS	\$251.28
62	Jabiru (T)	URS	\$44.03	62	Walingeri-Ngumpinku	RTX	\$247.37
63	Palmerston (T)	UFS	\$38.44	63	Papunya	RTX	\$246.18
64	Alice Springs (T)	URS	\$38.43	64	Yuendumu	RTM	\$223.70
65	Darwin (C)	UCC	\$18.97	65	Lajamanu	RTM	\$209.38
66	Trust Account	ZZZ	\$0.00	66	Urapuntja	RTS	\$202.62

APPENDIX F

AUSTRALIAN CLASSIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The Australian Classification of Local Governments (ACLG) was first published in September 1994 and has proved a useful way to categorise Local Governments across Australia.

The Local Governments included in the classification system are those that receive general purpose financial assistance grants as defined under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. Therefore, bodies declared by the Commonwealth Minister on the advice of the State Minister to be local governing bodies for the purposes of the Act are included in the ACLG. These include community councils. However, county councils, voluntary regional organisations of councils (VROCs) and the Australian Capital Territory are excluded.

The classification system involves three steps. Each step allocates a prefix (letter/s of the alphabet) to develop a three-letter identifier for each class of Local Government (there are 22 categories). So, for example, a medium-sized council in a rural agricultural area would be classified as RAM – rural, agricultural, medium. If it was remote, however, it would be classified as RTM. Table F.1 provides information on the structure of the classification system.

Table F.2 provides details of the number of councils in existence during 2001–02, by ACLG category and by State and table F.3 provides a full listing of all councils by classification group. As there were no changes to the ACLG reported for councils in 2001–02, there is no table in this year’s report giving changes to council classifications.

Local Government grants commissions do not take the ACLG classification of a council into account when determining the level of general purpose grant. Councils are, however, grouped by ACLG in the National Report (see appendixes D and E) to help compare grant outcomes with other similarly classified councils.

Background

Developers of the system recognised that, with so many different types of Local Government in Australia, and with changing population distribution patterns, there will be occasions where a council’s profile does not fully match the characteristics of the class into which it has been placed. When this occurs, a Local Government may be reallocated to a classification that more accurately reflects its circumstances. In the event, less than a dozen councils have been reallocated

over the period since 1994 and some of those, such as Surf Coast in Victoria, were in transition to being reallocated to a new classification because of population growth.

A review of ACLG commenced in April 2001 but is currently stalled. This review will be

re-established when additional resources become available.

Further details of the classification system can be found in the original report on the ACLG (Department of Housing and Regional Development 1994).

Table F.1 Structure of the classification system

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Identifiers	Category
URBAN (U)	Capital City (CC)			UCC
Population more than 20 000	Metropolitan Developed (D) Part of an urban centre of more than 1 000 000 or population density more than 600/sq km	Small (S) Medium (M) Large (L) Very Large (V)	up to 30 000 30 001–70 000 70 001–120 000 more than 120 000	UDS UDM UDL UDV
OR				
Population density more than 30 persons per sq km	Regional Towns/City (R) Part of an urban centre with population less than 1 000 000 and predominantly urban in nature	Small (S) Medium (M) Large (L) Very Large (V)	up to 30 000 30 001–70 000 70 001–120 000 more than 120 000	URS URM URL URV
OR				
90 per cent or more of LGA population is urban	Fringe (F) A developing LGA on the margin of a developed or regional urban centre	Small (S) Medium (M) Large (L) Very Large (V)	up to 30 000 30 001–70 000 70 001–120 000 more than 120 000	UFS UFM UFL UFV
RURAL (R)				
An LGA with population less than 20 000	Significant Growth (SG) Average annual population growth more than 3 per cent, population more than 5 000 and not remote	Not applicable		RSG
AND				
Population density less than 30 persons per sq km	Agricultural (A)	Small (S) Medium (M) Large (L) Very Large (V)	up to 2 000 2 001–5 000 5 001–10 000 10 001–20 000	RAS RAM RAL RAV
AND				
Less than 90 per cent of LGA population is urban	Remote (T)	Extra Small (X) Small (S) Medium (M) Large (L) up to	400 401–1 000 1 001–3 000 3 001–20 000	RTX RTS RTM RTL

Table F.2 Number of councils by ACLG by category and by State, 2001–02

State	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT ¹	Total
Urban Capital City (UCC)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Urban Development Small (UDS)	3	1	0	13	2	0	0	19
Urban Development Medium (UDM)	14	2	1	2	7	0	0	26
Urban Development Large (UDL)	7	9	0	2	5	0	0	23
Urban Development Very Large (UDV)	8	10	1	1	0	0	0	20
Urban Fringe Small (UFS)	0	1	3	1	1	1	1	8
Urban Fringe Medium (UFM)	3	3	3	5	2	0	0	16
Urban Fringe Large (UFL)	1	3	3	3	0	0	0	10
Urban Fringe Very Large (UFV)	7	3	2	1	1	0	0	14
Urban Regional Small (URS)	15	13	43	8	7	5	4	95
Urban Regional Medium (URM)	18	8	4	2	0	3	0	35
Urban Regional Large (URL)	2	3	4	0	0	0	0	9
Urban Regional Very Large (URV)	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	6
Rural Significant Growth (RSG)	0	1	4	8	0	0	0	13
Rural Agricultural Small (RAS)	5	0	7	52	10	2	0	76
Rural Agricultural Medium (RAM)	38	0	26	18	11	3	0	96
Rural Agricultural Large (RAL)	27	8	14	2	10	9	0	70
Rural Agricultural Very Large (RAV)	18	12	14	2	11	5	1	63
Rural Remote Extra Small (RTX)	3	0	4	6	4	0	28	46
Rural Remote Small (RTS)	0	0	8	2	0	0	21	31
Rural Remote Medium (RTM)	1	0	9	7	1	0	9	27
Rural Remote Large (RTL)	1	0	4	6	1	0	0	12
Total	175	79	157	142	74	29	65	721

Note: 1 excludes Northern Territory Trust Account

Table F.3 ACLG category listing of Local Governments by State, 2002

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
New South Wales		Coffs Harbour City	URM
Albury City	URM	Conargo Shire	RAS
Armidale Dumaresq	URS	Coolah Shire	RAM
Ashfield Municipal	UDM	Coolamon Shire	RAM
Auburn	UDM	Cooma-Monaro Shire	RAL
Ballina Shire	URM	Coonabarabran Shire	RAL
Balranald Shire	RAM	Coonamble Shire	RAM
Bankstown City	UDV	Cootamundra Shire	RAL
Barraba Shire	RAM	Copmanhurst Shire	RAM
Bathurst City	URM	Corowa Shire	RAL
Baulkham Hills Shire	UFV	Cowra Shire	RAV
Bega Valley Shire	URS	Crookwell Shire	RAM
Bellingen Shire	RAV	Culcairn Shire	RAM
Berrigan Shire	RAL	Deniliquin	URS
Bingara Shire	RAS	Dubbo City	URM
Blacktown City	UDV	Dungog Shire	RAL
Bland Shire	RAL	Eurobodalla Shire	URM
Blayney Shire	RAL	Evans Shire	RAL
Blue Mountains City	UFL	Fairfield City	UDV
Bogan Shire	RAM	Forbes Shire	RAV
Bombala	RAM	Gilgandra Shire	RAM
Boorowa	RAM	Glen Innes Municipal	URS
Botany Bay City	UDM	Gloucester Shire	RAM
Bourke Shire	RAM	Gosford City	UFV
Brewarrina Shire	RAM	Goulburn City	URS
Broken Hill City	URS	Grafton City	URS
Burwood	UDM	Great Lakes	URM
Byron Shire	URS	Greater Taree City	URM
Cabonne	RAV	Griffith City	URS
Camden	UFM	Gundagai Shire	RAM
Campbelltown City	UFV	Gunnedah Shire	RAV
Canada Bay	UDM	Gunning Shire	RAM
Canterbury City	UDV	Guyra Shire	RAM
Carrathool Shire	RAM	Harden Shire	RAM
Central Darling Shire	RTM	Hastings	URM
Cessnock City	URM	Hawkesbury City	UFM
Cobar Shire	RTL	Hay Shire	RAM

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Holbrook Shire	RAM	Narrabri Shire	RAV
Holroyd City	UDL	Narrandera Shire	RAL
Hornsby Shire	UFV	Narromine Shire	RAL
Hume Shire	RAL	Newcastle City	URV
Hunters Hill Municipal	UDS	North Sydney	UDM
Hurstville City	UDL	Nundle Shire	RAS
Inverell Shire	RAV	Oberon	RAM
Jerilderie Shire	RAS	Orange City	URM
Junee Shire	RAL	Parkes Shire	RAV
Kempsey Shire	URS	Parramatta City	UDV
Kiama Municipal	URS	Parry Shire	RAV
Kogarah Municipal	UDM	Penrith City	UFV
Ku-ring-gai	UDL	Pittwater	UDM
Kyogle	RAL	Port Stephens	URM
Lachlan Shire	RAL	Pristine Waters	RAV
Lake Macquarie City	URV	Queanbeyan City	URS
Lane Cove Municipal	UDM	Quirindi Shire	RAM
Leeton Shire	RAV	Randwick City	UDV
Leichhardt Municipal	UDM	Richmond Valley	URS
Lismore City	URM	Rockdale City	UDL
Lithgow City	URS	Ryde City	UDL
Liverpool City	UFV	Rylstone Shire	RAM
Lockhart Shire	RAM	Scone Shire	RAL
Lord Howe Island (Bd)	RTX	Severn Shire	RAM
Maclean Shire	RAV	Shellharbour City	URM
Maitland City	URM	Shoalhaven City	URL
Manilla Shire	RAM	Silverton Village	RTX
Manly	UDM	Singleton Shire	URS
Marrickville	UDL	Snowy River Shire	RAL
Merriwa Shire	RAM	South Sydney City	UDL
Moree Plains Shire	RAV	Strathfield Municipal	UDS
Mosman Municipal	UDS	Sutherland Shire	UDV
Mudgee Shire	RAV	Sydney City	UCC
Mulwaree Shire	RAL	Tallaganda Shire	RAM
Murray Shire	RAL	Tamworth City	URM
Murrumbidgee Shire	RAM	Temora Shire	RAL
Murrurundi Shire	RAM	Tenterfield Shire	RAL
Muswellbrook Shire	RAV	Tibooburra Village	RTX
Nambucca Shire	RAV	Tumbarumba Shire	RAM

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Tumut Shire	RAV	Central Goldfields (S)	RAV
Tweed Shire	URL	Colac-Otway (S)	URS
Uralla Shire	RAL	Corangamite (S)	RAV
Urana Shire	RAS	Darebin (C)	UDV
Wagga Wagga City	URM	Delatite (S)	URS
Wakool Shire	RAM	Docklands Authority	UDS
Walcha	RAM	East Gippsland (S)	URM
Walgett Shire	RAL	Frankston (C)	UDL
Warren Shire	RAM	Gannawarra (S)	RAV
Warringah	UDV	Glen Eira (C)	UDV
Waverley	UDM	Glenelg (S)	URS
Weddin Shire	RAM	Golden Plains (S)	RAV
Wellington	RAL	Greater Bendigo (C)	URL
Wentworth Shire	RAL	Greater Dandenong (C)	UDV
Willoughby City	UDM	Greater Geelong (C)	URV
Wingecarribee Shire	URM	Greater Shepparton (C)	URM
Wollondilly Shire	UFM	Hepburn (S)	RAV
Wollongong City	URV	Hindmarsh (S)	RAL
Woollahra Municipal	UDM	Hobson's Bay (C)	UDL
Wyong Shire	UFV	Horsham (RC)	URS
Yallaroi Shire	RAM	Hume (C)	UFV
Yarrowlumla Shire	RAL	Indigo (S)	RAV
Yass Shire	RAL	Kingston (C)	UDV
Young Shire	RAV	Knox (C)	UDV
Victoria		Latrobe (C)	URL
Alpine (S)	RAV	Loddon (S)	RAL
Ararat (RC)	URS	Macedon Ranges (S)	URM
Ballarat (C)	URL	Manningham (C)	UDL
Banyule (C)	UDL	Maribyrnong (C)	UDM
Bass Coast (S)	UFS	Maroondah (C)	UDL
Baw Baw (S)	URM	Melbourne (C)	UCC
Bayside (C)	UDL	Melton (S)	UFM
Boroondara (C)	UDV	Mildura (RC)	URM
Brimbank (C)	UDV	Mitchell (S)	URS
Buloke (S)	RAL	Moira (S)	URS
Campaspe (C)	URM	Monash (C)	UDV
Cardinia (S)	UFM	Moonee Valley (C)	UDL
Casey (C)	UFV	Moorabool (S)	URS
		Moreland (C)	UDV

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Mornington Peninsula (S)	UFL	Beaudesert	UFM
Mount Alexander (S)	RAV	Belyando	RAV
Moyne (S)	RAV	Bendemere	RAS
Murrindindi (S)	RAV	Biggenden	RAS
Nillumbik (S)	UFM	Blackall	RTM
Northern Grampians (S)	RAV	Boigu Island	URS
Port Phillip (C)	UDL	Boonah	RAL
Pyrenees (S)	RAL	Booringa	RAS
Queenscliffe (B)	URS	Boulia	RTS
South Gippsland (S)	URS	Bowen	RAV
Southern Grampians (S)	RAV	Brisbane	UCC
Stonnington (C)	UDL	Broadsound	RAL
Strathbogie (S)	RAL	Bulloo	RTS
Surf Coast (S)	RSG	Bundaberg	URM
Swan Hill (RC)	URS	Bungil	RAS
Towong (S)	RAL	Burdekin	RAV
Wangaratta (RC)	URS	Burke	RTS
Warrnambool (C)	URS	Burnett	UFS
Wellington (S)	URM	Caboolture	UFL
West Wimmera (S)	RAL	Cairns	URV
Whitehorse (C)	UDV	Calliope	RAV
Whittlesea (C)	UFL	Caloundra	URL
Wodonga (RC)	URM	Cambooya	RAM
Wyndham (C)	UFL	Cardwell	RAL
Yarra (C)	UDM	Carpentaria	RTM
Yarra Ranges (S)	UFV	Charters Towers	URS
Yarriambiack (S)	RAL	Cherbourg	URS
		Chinchilla	RAL
Queensland		Clifton	RAM
Aramac	RTS	Cloncurry	RTL
Atherton	RAV	Coconut Island	URS
Aurukun	URS	Cook	RTL
Badu Island	URS	Cooloola	URM
Balonne	RAM	Crow's Nest	RSG
Bamaga	URS	Croydon	RTX
Banana	RAV	Dalby	URS
Barcaldine	RTM	Dalrymple	RAM
Barcoo	RTS	Darnley Island	URS
Bauhinia	RAM	Dauan Island	URS

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Diamantina	RTX	Logan	UDV
Doomadgee	URS	Longreach	RTL
Douglas	RSG	Mabuiag Island	URS
Duaringa	RAL	Mackay	URL
Eacham	RAL	Mapoon Aboriginal Council	URS
Eidsvold	RAS	Mareeba	RAV
Emerald	RAV	Maroochy	UFV
Esk	RAV	Maryborough	URS
Etheridge	RTS	McKinlay	RTM
Fitzroy	RAL	Millmerran	RAM
Flinders	RTM	Mirani	RAL
Gatton	RAV	Miriam Vale	RAM
Gayndah	RAM	Monto	RAM
Gladstone	URS	Mornington	URS
Gold Coast	URV	Mount Isa	URS
Goondiwindi	URS	Mount Morgan	RAM
Hammond Island	URS	Mundubbera	RAM
Herberton	RAL	Murgon	RAM
Hervey Bay	URM	Murilla	RAM
Hinchinbrook	RAV	Murray Island	URS
Hopevale	URS	Murweh	RTL
Ilfracombe	RTX	Nanango	RAL
Inglewood	RAM	Nebo	RAM
Injinoo (Cowal Ck)	URS	New Mapoon	URS
Ipswich	UFV	Noosa	UFM
Isis	RAL	Palm Island	URS
Isisford	RTX	Paroo	RTM
Jericho	RTS	Peak Downs	RAM
Johnstone	UFS	Perry	RAS
Jondaryan	RAV	Pine Rivers	UFL
Kilcoy	RAM	Pittsworth	RAM
Kilkivan	RAM	Pormpuraaw	URS
Kingaroy	RAV	Quilpie	RTM
Kolan	RAM	Redcliffe	UDM
Kowanyama	URS	Redland	UFL
Kubin Island	URS	Richmond	RTM
Laidley	RSG	Rockhampton	URM
Livingstone	UFS	Roma	URS
Lockhart River	URS	Rosalie	RAL

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Saibai Island	URS	Beverley (S)	RAS
Sarina	RAV	Boddington (S)	RAS
Seisia Island	URS	Boyup Brook (S)	RAS
St Paul's Island	URS	Bridgetown-Greenbushes (S)	RAM
Stanthorpe	RAL	Brookton (S)	RAS
Stephen Island	URS	Broome (S)	RTL
Sue Island (Warraber)	URS	Broomehill (S)	RAS
Tambo	RTS	Bruce Rock (S)	RAS
Tara	RAM	Bunbury (C)	URS
Taroom	RAM	Busselton (S)	RSG
Thuringowa	UFM	Cambridge (T)	UDS
Tiaro	RAM	Canning (C)	UDL
Toowoomba	URL	Capel (S)	RSG
Torres	URS	Carnamah (S)	RAS
Townsville	URL	Carnarvon (S)	RAL
Umagico	URS	Chapman Valley (S)	RAS
Waggamba	RAM	Chittering (S)	RAM
Wambo	RAL	Claremont (T)	UDS
Warroo	RAS	Cockburn (C)	UFM
Warwick	URS	Collie (S)	RAL
Weipa South	URS	Coolgardie (S)	URS
Whitsunday	RSG	Coorow (S)	RAS
Winton	RTM	Corrigin (S)	RAS
Wondai	RAM	Cottesloe (T)	UDS
Woocoo	RAM	Cranbrook (S)	RAS
Woorabinda	URS	Cuballing (S)	RAS
Wujal Wujal	URS	Cue (S)	RTX
Yam Island	URS	Cunderdin (S)	RAS
Yarrabah	URS	Dalwallinu (S)	RAS
Yorke Island	URS	Dandaragan (S)	RAM
Western Australia		Dardanup (S)	RSG
Albany (C)	URS	Denmark (S)	RAM
Armadale (C)	UFM	Derby-West Kimberley (S)	RTL
Ashburton (S)	RTL	Donnybrook-Balingup (S)	RAM
Augusta-Margaret River (S)	RSG	Dowerin (S)	RAS
Bassendean (T)	UDS	Dumbleyung (S)	RAS
Bayswater (C)	UDM	Dundas (S)	RTM
Belmont (C)	UDS	East Fremantle (T)	UDS
		East Pilbara (S)	RTL

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Esperance (S)	RAV	Mukinbudin (S)	RAS
Exmouth (S)	RTM	Mullewa (S)	RAS
Fremantle (C)	UDS	Mundaring (S)	UFM
Geraldton (C)	URS	Murchison (S)	RTX
Gingin (S)	RAM	Murray (S)	RSG
Gnowangerup (S)	RAS	Nannup (S)	RAS
Goomalling (S)	RAS	Narembeen (S)	RAS
Gosnells (C)	UFL	Narrogin (S)	RAS
Greenough (S)	RSG	Narrogin (T)	URS
Halls Creek (S)	RTL	Nedlands (C)	UDS
Harvey (S)	RSG	Ngaanyatjarraku (S)	RTM
Irwin (S)	RAM	Northam (S)	RAM
Jerramungup (S)	RAS	Northam (T)	URS
Joondalup (C)	UFV	Northampton (S)	RAM
Kalamunda (S)	UFM	Nungarin (S)	RAS
Kalgoorlie/Boulder (C)	URM	Peppermint Grove (S)	UDS
Katanning (S)	RAM	Perenjori (S)	RAS
Kellerberrin (S)	RAS	Perth (C)	UCC
Kent (S)	RAS	Pingelly (S)	RAS
Kojonup (S)	RAM	Plantagenet (S)	RAM
Kondinin (S)	RAS	Port Hedland (T)	URS
Koorda (S)	RAS	Quairading (S)	RAS
Kulin (S)	RAS	Ravensthorpe (S)	RAS
Kwinana (T)	UFS	Rockingham (C)	UFM
Lake Grace (S)	RAS	Roebourne (S)	URS
Laverton (S)	RTM	Sandstone (S)	RTX
Leonora (S)	RTM	Serpentine-Jarrahdale (S)	RSG
Mandurah (C)	URM	Shark Bay (S)	RTS
Manjimup (S)	RAV	South Perth (C)	UDM
Meekatharra (S)	RTM	Stirling (C)	UDV
Melville (C)	UDL	Subiaco (C)	UDS
Menzies (S)	RTX	Swan (S)	UFL
Merredin (S)	RAM	Tambellup (S)	RAS
Mingenew (S)	RAS	Tammin (S)	RAS
Moorabool (S)	RAM	Three Springs (S)	RAS
Morawa (S)	RAS	Toodyay (S)	RAM
Mosman Park (T)	UDS	Trayning (S)	RAS
Mount Magnet (S)	RTS	Upper Gascoyne (S)	RTX
Mount Marshall (S)	RAS	Victoria Park (T)	UDS

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Victoria Plains (S)	RAS	Gawler (M)	UFS
Vincent (T)	UDS	Gerard	RTX
Wagin (S)	RAS	Goyder (RG)	RAM
Wandering (S)	RAS	Grant (DC)	RAL
Wanneroo (C)	UFL	Holdfast Bay (C)	UDM
Warooa (S)	RAM	Kangaroo Island	RAM
West Arthur (S)	RAS	Karoonda-East Murray (DC)	RAS
Westonia (S)	RAS	Kimba (DC)	RAS
Wickepin (S)	RAS	Kingston (DC)	RAM
Williams (S)	RAS	Le Hunte (DC)	RAS
Wiluna (S)	RTM	Light RC	RAV
Wongan-Ballidu (S)	RAS	Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	RAM
Woodanilling (S)	RAS	Loxton Waikerie (DC)	RAV
Wyalkatchem (S)	RAS	Mallala (DC)	RAL
Wyndham-East Kimberley (S)	RTL	Maralinga	RTX
Yalgoo (S)	RTX	Marion (C)	UDL
Yilgarn (S)	RAM	Mid Murray	RAL
York (S)	RAM	Mitcham (C)	UDM
South Australia		Mount Barker (DC)	URS
Adelaide (C)	UCC	Mount Gambier (C)	URS
Adelaide Hills	UFM	Mount Remarkable (DC)	RAM
Alexandrina	RAV	Murray Bridge (DC)	RAV
Anangu Pitjantjatjara	RTM	Naracoorte Lucindale	RAL
Barossa	RAV	Nepabunna	RTX
Barunga West (DC)	RAM	Northern Areas	RAL
Berri and Barmera	RAV	Norwood Payneham and St Peters (C)	UDM
Burnside (C)	UDM	Onkaparinga (DC)	UFV
Campbelltown (C)	UDM	Orroroo/Carrieton (DC)	RAS
Ceduna (DC)	RAM	Outback Areas Community Developm't Trust	RTL
Charles Sturt (C)	UDL	Peterborough (DC)	RAM
Clare and Gilbert Valleys	RAL	Playford (C)	UFM
Cleve (DC)	RAS	Port Adelaide Enfield	UDL
Cooper Pedy (DC)	URS	Port Augusta (C)	URS
Coorong (DC)	RAL	Port Lincoln (C)	URS
Copper Coast (DC)	RAV	Port Pirie (C&DC)	RAV
Elliston (DC)	RAS	Prospect (C)	UDS
Flinders Ranges	RAS	Renmark Paringa (DC)	RAL
Franklin Harbour (DC)	RAS	Robe (DC)	RAS
		Roxby Downs (M)	URS

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Salisbury (C)	UDL	Meander Valley (M)	RAV
Southern Mallee (DC)	RAM	Northern Midlands (M)	RAV
Streaky Bay (DC)	RAS	Sorell (M)	RAV
Tatiara (DC)	RAL	Southern Midlands (M)	RAL
Tea Tree Gully (C)	UDL	Tasman (M)	RAM
Tumby Bay (DC)	RAM	Waratah - Wynyard (M)	RAV
Unley (C)	UDM	West Coast (M)	RAL
Victor Harbor	RAV	West Tamar (M)	UFS
Wakefield (RG)	RAL		
Walkerville (M)	UDS	Northern Territory	
Wattle Range	RAV	Aherrenge (Arunga)	RTX
West Torrens Thebarton (C)	UDM	Ali Curung	RTS
Whyalla (C)	URS	Alice Springs (T)	URS
Yalata	RTX	Alpurrurulam	RTS
Yankalilla (DC)	RAM	Amoonguna	RTX
Yorke Peninsula (DC)	RAV	Angurugu	RTS
		Anmatjere	RTM
Tasmania		Aputula	RTX
Break O'day (M)	RAL	Areyonga	RTX
Brighton (M)	URS	Arltarlpilta	RTX
Burnie (C)	URS	Barunga Manyallaluk	RTS
Central Coast (M)	URS	Belyuen	RTX
Central Highlands (M)	RAM	Binjari	RTX
Circular Head (M)	RAL	Borrooloola	RTS
Clarence (C)	URM	Coomalie (CGC)	RTM
Derwent Valley (M)	RAL	Cox Peninsula	RTX
Devonport (C)	URS	Daguragu	RTS
Dorset (M)	RAL	Darwin (C)	UCC
Flinders (M)	RAS	Elliott District	RTS
George Town (M)	RAL	Galiwinku	RTM
Glamorgan - Spring Bay (M)	RAM	Gapuwiyak	RTS
Glenorchy (C)	URM	Gulin Gulin and Weemol	RTX
Hobart (C)	UCC	Ikuntji	RTX
Huon Valley (M)	RAV	Imanpa	RTX
Kentish (M)	RAL	Jabiru (T)	URS
King Island (M)	RAS	Jilkmिंगgan	RTX
Kingborough (M)	URS	Kaltukatjara	RTX
Latrobe (M)	RAL	Kardu Numida	RTM
Launceston (C)	URM	Katherine (T)	URS

Council name	Category	Council name	Category
Kunbarllanjnja	RTS	Ramingining	RTS
Lajamanu	RTM	Tapatijatjaka	RTX
Litchfield (S)	RAV	Tennant Creek (T)	URS
Ltyentye Purte (Santa Teresa)	RTS	Timber Creek	RTX
Maningrida	RTM	Tiwi Island	RTM
Marngarr	RTX	Trust Account	ZZZ
Mataranka	RTX	Umbakumba	RTS
Milingimbi	RTS	Urapuntja	RTS
Milyakburra	RTX	Walingeri-Ngumpinku	RTX
Minjilang	RTX	Wallace Rockhole	RTX
Naiyu Nambiyu	RTS	Walungurru	RTS
Nganmariyanga (Palumpa)	RTX	Warruwi	RTX
Ntaria	RTS	Watiyawanu (Mt Liebig)	RTX
Numbulwar/Numburindi	RTS	Wugularr	RTS
Nyirripi	RTX	Yirrkala/Dhanbul	RTS
Palmerston (T)	UFS	Yuelamu	RTX
Papunya	RTX	Yuendumu	RTM
Peppimenarti	RTX	Yugal Mangi	RTM
Pine Creek	RTS		

APPENDIX G

PROGRESS IN IMPROVING EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Effective and efficient Local Government

Effective and efficient Local Government is important because Local Governments deliver key economic, social and environmental services to their communities.

This section of the report incorporates reports from States – both State departments and Local Government Associations – on activities in 2001–02 towards meeting these aims. It includes progress reports on developing performance indicators, reforming legislation, implementing National Competition Policy and other microeconomic reforms.

New South Wales

Department of Local Government

Progress in developing performance indicators for Local Government

New South Wales released the 2000–01 *Comparative Performance Information* publication in September 2002. The department has continued to collect information from councils in addition to the material needed for the publication. The other data collections have been

used to calculate financial assistance grants, analyse councils' financial health and check compliance of rates collected. In order for the public and councils to make better use of the publication, the department brought the timetable forward. Councils were emailed the data to be published for confirmation and to provide an opportunity to make corrections to the most recent year.

No new indicators were introduced for 2000–01 publication. However, the 'Water' and 'Sewerage' indicators were revised to reflect the concerns of residential customer and whole-of-system usage. Due to changes to accounting standards a number of financial-related indicators changed names. 'Number of equivalent full-time staff' is now disclosed and audited in councils' financial reports.

The 2000–01 publication will continue to produce time series data for each indicator. New South Wales will continue to review and develop appropriate performance measures.

To promote use and transparency/accountability, the department continues to make the publication and the raw data freely accessible via the Internet.

National Competition Policy

The State is required to review its legislation in accordance with the Competition Principles Agreement signed in 1995. The review of the *Local Government Act 1993* has been an exhaustive process resulting in a comprehensive analysis of the provisions of the Act in light of competition policy. An issues paper in 2000 was widely advertised and a reference group established. The Review Committee, comprising senior officers from the Department of Local Government, the Cabinet Office and NSW Treasury, guided the recommendations for reform contained in the *National Competition Policy – Review of the Local Government Act 1993*.

The report was submitted to the Government in July 2001 and was publicly released in April 2002. It can be obtained from the department's website at www.dlg.nsw.gov.au

The report's primary recommendations are amendment of the Local Government Act with respect to certain matters, including:

- removing the requirement for business approvals for undertaker and mortuary businesses, as these businesses are sufficiently regulated under public health legislation and the Local Government (Orders) Regulation 1999
- allowing greater market entry by allowing councils to access bulk purchasing arrangements of certain organisations, subject to appropriate probity and transparency requirements applying to such organisations
- introducing greater flexibility for councils to set fees for business and 'contestable' activities, while still maintaining accountability to the community
- removing the current restrictions on income raised from rent of community land
- defining the ways in which monies received through business activities and required to be held in a restricted use fund can be transferred to general funds for the transfer of dividends and community service obligations.

The costs and benefits of these provisions have been examined and it is considered that having regard to competition policy, they cannot be justified. Accordingly, amendments to the Local Government Act are proposed to remove these anti-competitive provisions from the Act.

Lgov New South Wales

Industrial Reform

New South Wales Local Government has been pursuing a comprehensive program of award restructuring. This has established a single, facilitative, skills-based award, with a flexible framework to allow councils and their staff to introduce changes in work practices and work design to suit their needs and those of the communities they serve.

The Local Government (State) Award 2001 and its predecessors encourage multi-skilling, training, the establishment of credible consultative mechanisms and the formalisation of enterprise arrangements with the object of enhancing workplace efficiency and providing employees with access to skills and better-paid jobs. The award objectives also include the elimination of discrimination and the establishment of rates of pay and conditions that are fair and equitable. The most recent variations to the award demonstrate the industry parties' commitment to promoting these objectives and include amongst other things, the introduction of paid maternity leave (9 weeks of full pay or 18 weeks on half pay) and access to long service leave after 5 years service.

Victoria

Department of Infrastructure

Implementation of Best Value

Best Value Victoria, introduced in December 1999, requires all Local Governments to apply the Best Value principles to their services by December 2005. The Best Value principles include establishing quality and cost standards, responsiveness, accessibility, consultation, continuous improvement and community reporting.

Best Value is characterised by a partnership approach focused on shared learning. The Local Government Division of the Department of Infrastructure delivers a range of sector support initiatives in cooperation with peak bodies. In the first two years the emphasis has been upon service reviews, benchmarking and community consultation. Workshops have been conducted around the State on these themes.

Best Value also has a strong emphasis on community reporting. Guidelines have recently been developed, in consultation with the sector, to improve the quality and consistency of annual reporting. Regional networks of Best Value council contact officers are being established to operate as interactive information exchanges, addressing issues and opportunities as implementation occurs.

Good governance and community consultation and engagement are emerging as two key areas of interest within best value. The Good Governance Advisory Group, comprising representatives of the peak bodies and the Local Government Division, recently commissioned a comprehensive study into governance practice throughout the sector. The report is expected to be finalised by September 2002.

A *Community Consultation Resource Guide* has also been published in cooperation with the Victorian Local Governance Association.

A website specifically dedicated to community consultation and engagement methodology and case study examples is being developed.

A Best Value Commission was established in 2000 to advise the Minister for Local Government on the implementation of Best Value across the State. The Commission published its first annual report in December 2001. The Commission's report and a broad range of other supporting documentation and support tools are available on the Department of Infrastructure website at

www.doi.vic.gov.au/bestvaluevictoria

Legislative review

In addition to Best Value, the Local Government Division undertook an extensive consultation process in the second half of 2001 as part of its review and update of the *Local Government Act 1989*. In excess of 170 submissions were received during the consultation process, in response to the release of a comprehensive consultation paper.

The Local Government (Update) Bill will amend the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Constitution Act 1975* to reflect contemporary thinking about the role of Local Government. It includes notable enhancements to the way Local Governments operate to provide effective local democracy, transparency and accountability to the community. It also formalises the place of Local Government in the Victorian Constitution and recognises the breadth of purpose of councils.

The Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council in May 2002, and is scheduled for debate in the Spring 2002 Parliamentary session. The proposed legislative changes address:

- council codes of conduct
- disclosure of conflicts of interest
- transparent decision-making
- sound financial management
- accountable public reporting

- democratic electoral systems
- the role and charter of Local Government.

Infrastructure

Management of local infrastructure assets remains a key focus for the Local Government sector.

The Department of Infrastructure assisted Local Government to improve their capability in this area by providing grants to a number of rural councils to help develop asset management plans, provided one-on-one support to a number of pilot councils to establish sound asset management planning, and organised a workshop for councillors on strategic asset management.

Progress in developing performance indicators for Local Government

In the 2001–02 year, Victoria continued its strong focus on developing a performance culture amongst Local Governments. This entailed reporting on a suite of indicators that measure council performance with respect to rates, operating and capital expenditure, debt and community satisfaction.

Each Local Government published seven Victorian Local Government Indicators in the report of operations section of their annual reports for 2000–01. The Local Government Division compiled these indicators in the first *Local Government in Victoria* report, which was released in May 2002. Councils in their 2002 annual reports will report against four additional indicators. These additional indicators cover councils' infrastructure and governance functions.

Victoria facilitated the fifth Annual Community Satisfaction Survey, with 75 Local Governments participating on a voluntary basis. The overall results remained stable in comparison to 2001, with 48 per cent of respondents rating their council's performance as 'excellent or good'. This was a marginal increase (although statistically significant) to the 2000 result of 47 per cent and quite a dramatic improvement on the 1998 result

of only 38 per cent. There has been a marginal increase in the proportion of respondents (an increase to 22 per cent from 21 per cent in 2001) who were seeking improvement in their council's overall performance but in comparison to the initial 1998 figure of 31, it is a very positive change.

It is also very pleasing to report that in terms of the overall performance indicator, 75 per cent of individual councils have maintained their high standard achieved in 2001, while 13 per cent have actually improved on this measure.

Queensland

Department of Local Government and Planning

National Competition Policy

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, the largest 18 councils in Queensland were required to consider some form of National Competition Policy (NCP) reform for their significant business activities. The remaining 107 councils were encouraged to consider the reforms on the basis of good management.

NCP Local Government Financial Incentive Package

The NCP Local Government Financial Incentive Package (FIP) is a pool of funds, totalling \$150 million in 1994–95 dollars, which the Queensland Government has allocated as a significant incentive for Local Government to implement National Competition and related Council of Australian Governments (COAG) water reforms.

The funds also recognise costs to Local Government of reviewing their business activities and local laws and implementing such reforms.

Given the importance of Local Government infrastructure and facilities to overall State development, implementation of NCP reforms

by councils (where the benefits outweigh the costs) also contribute to economic and social development at State and regional levels.

The largest 18 Local Governments were originally selected for the primary focus of reform on the basis that their significant business activities (Type 1 and Type 2 activities) accounted for around 80 per cent of the Local Government business expenditure in Queensland. Only these councils were required to undertake public benefit assessments before deciding which competitive neutrality reforms should be applied. Additionally, all Local Governments were invited to identify their Type 3 business activities (that is, non-significant) and determine whether to apply the reforms (that is, full cost pricing, code of competitive conduct, commercialisation or corporatisation). Although the nomination of Type 3 business activities was not mandatory, 40 councils nominated Type 3 activities for reform at the outset of the reform programme.

Nominations for new business activities for NCP under the FIP closed on 30 March 2002, by which time a total of 736 nominations had been received.

Councils must first nominate a business for reform and resolve to apply the specific reforms. Once a council's business nominations have been accepted, they must undertake a series of reforms to be eligible for payments out of the FIP.

The original date for the completion of NCP reforms was 30 June 2002. However, the guidelines have now been amended to provide an extension of time for all councils (with the exception of Brisbane City Council which has already been granted a year's extension) to gain the greatest benefit from the Business Management Assistance Programme (BMAP), discussed below.

For those councils that met the new requirements of the guidelines, the deadline for the implementation of reforms to be eligible for

FIP payments has now been extended to 30 June 2003. Of the eligible 124 councils, 117 have requested and been granted the extension of time. In addition, 223 new business activities have been nominated across 85 councils in this last round, with 15 of these business being nominated by the 'big 18' group.

In compiling its assessments against the Implementation Pool of the NCP FIP for the year ending 31 July 2001, the Queensland Competition Authority commented that good progress continues to be made by the larger councils, who have now completed 80 per cent of their recommended reforms. Many smaller councils have also substantially increased their implementation of competition reforms, with double the outcomes in this group of the previous two years, and 41 per cent of the recommended reforms are now completed.

The Queensland Government's position on applying the NCP reforms to Local Government has always been that they are a set of management tools to choose from if they are going to benefit a council and there is a positive public outcome.

Apart from the provision of funds under the FIP, there have been a number of initiatives to support Local Governments implementing NCP reforms in recent times, for example training and the development of guidelines for dealing with competitive neutrality complaints in Local Governments.

Components of the NCP Financial Incentive Package

The \$150 million allocation of the FIP has three components, namely:

- \$1 million in a training pool to provide NCP training and assistance to Local Governments by the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and the department. With indexation, this is now \$1.101 million.

- \$7.5 million in a review pool to assist Local Governments in meeting the cost of reviews of local laws, to conduct public benefit assessments of the impacts of introducing competitive neutrality reforms and assessments of the cost effectiveness of introducing two-part tariffs under the COAG water reforms. With indexation, this is now \$8.255 million.
- \$141.5 million in an implementation pool to be paid to Local Governments for implementing NCP reforms. With indexation, this pool is now approximately \$163.15 million.

Of the \$150 million, \$45 million (in 1994–95 dollars) has been set aside for Brisbane City Council, made up of \$2.25 million from the Review Pool (which has been fully expended) and \$42.75 million from the Implementation Pool. This allocation was based on a variety of characteristics, such as recurrent expenditure, revenue and population, all of which suggested that an amount in the vicinity of 30 per cent of the funding pools would be appropriate.

Payments to Local Governments under the NCP Financial Incentive Package

Payments have been made to Local Governments over a five-year period commencing in 1997–98, with the total amount under the FIP subject to Queensland receiving the full amount of its competition payments from the Federal Government. The figures below indicate the funds distributed to-date and funds remaining (including indexation).

In each of the five years of distributions to date, unspent funds were carried forward, increasing the potential funds for distribution in the subsequent financial years.

The payments to Local Governments in 2001–02 comprised \$23.7 million from the Implementation Pool to 117 Local Governments recognising their progress in implementing

NCP and COAG water reforms and \$258 900 from the Review Pool to 52 Local Governments for completing two-part tariff assessments.

The remaining funds in each of the three pools of the FIP are as follows:

- Training Pool – of the available \$1.101 million, all funds have been expended or committed for ongoing projects benefiting Local Governments.
- Review Pool – of the available \$8.255 million, only \$635 100 remains undistributed.
- Implementation Pool – of the available \$163.15 million, an estimated amount of \$48.7 million remains available over the remaining life of the FIP (there is one further round of payments to the Brisbane City Council and two further annual rounds of payment to other Local Governments).

Local Government NCP Financial Incentive Package (FIP)	
Actual payments to Local Governments (from the Review and Implementation Pools) (including indexation*)	
	\$ million
1997–98	7.9
1998–99	30.3
1999–00	32.7
2000–01	27.4
2001–02	23.9
TOTAL	122.2
Possible funds available in 2002–03	48.7##

* Indexation is determined by the Federal Government based on population changes and CPI.

The actual funds available to Local Government for the remainder of the FIP are subject to Queensland receiving the full amount of its competition payments from the Federal Government.

Business Management Assistance Programme

In August 2001, a new scheme known as the Business Management Assistance Programme (BMAP) was established to improve the financial management capability of councils and hence enhance their general capacity to provide services to their communities, while maximising their potential for payments through the FIP.

The initiative has been funded by the State Government and implemented by the Local Government Association of Queensland (in consultation with the Queensland Department of Local Government and Planning and Queensland Treasury). A total of \$0.6 million from the indexation component of competition payments allocated to the NCP FIP was used to fund the initiative.

As part of BMAP, consultants worked with each of the 107 participating councils to develop action plans outlining a programme for implementing the remaining NCP reforms in the required time. Support has been provided in implementing the NCP requirements that also result in improved financial management practices for the councils, and improved outcomes for their communities. This support is also enabling them to maximise their potential payments from the State Government under the FIP.

The BMAP consultants will provide ongoing technical advice and support until June 2003, for councils continuing to implement reforms. Staff of the Queensland Department of Local Government and Planning are also providing ongoing support.

Progress in developing comparable performance indicators

In 1996 the Queensland Department of Local Government and Planning established a performance management programme for the purpose of producing an annual publication

of comparative performance information, which would assist Local Governments in their efforts towards the achievement of performance improvement and best practice in the services they provide to their communities.

The *Queensland Local Government Comparative Information 00/01* is the fourth report to be produced under this programme. This report is produced in partnership with Local Governments and provides a comprehensive collection of efficiency, effectiveness and quality of service indicators for key Local Government functions, as well as detailing contextual information to assist in the comparisons of councils across Queensland. In addition, the report contains four consecutive years worth of data for the first time, enabling trend analysis to be undertaken from 1997–98 to 2000–01. Also, for the first time, the report is available on the department's website at

http://www1.dlgp.qld.gov.au/estore/local_govt/

The report is considered to be a work in progress with issues relating to data definitions and the breadth and variability of Local Government functions and circumstances being reviewed on an annual basis.

To further assist councils in their performance improvement efforts, the department conducted State-wide training workshops in 2002.

The workshops provided Local Government practitioners with a realistic approach to integrated performance measurement. Workshop participants were also presented with a detailed case study that included an examination of the development, application and integration of performance measurement processes in a large regional Queensland council.

The department intends to continue to focus on the promotion of best practice initiatives and the fostering of a continuous improvement culture with Queensland councils during 2002–03.

Local Government Association of Queensland

The BMAP Programme

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, the largest 18 Local Governments in Queensland were required to consider some form of NCP reform for their significant business activities. The remaining 107 Local Governments were encouraged to consider the reforms on the basis of good management.

The Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) assesses reform progress and recommends payments to Local Government from the \$141.5 million (unindexed) Local Government NCP Financial Incentive Package (FIP) implementation pool.

A significant number of Local Governments are missing out on their bonus payment entitlements. On current trends, Queensland councils may not access \$50–70 million of the FIP payments.

Consequently, the Association has created the BMAP programme, designed to assist Local Government to progress the implementation of NCP reforms and other business and financial management reforms. The aim is to improve the capacity of councils and enhance their effectiveness in providing services to their community through an improved understanding of financial management tools and information.

With an extension of the timetable for the FIP from 30 June 2002 to 30 June 2003, the Association has been successful in securing up to \$600 000 from the FIP Implementation pool to fund BMAP to provide a regional support strategy for councils.

All councils will be invited to participate in council briefings, attend regional technical workshops, receive guidelines and checklist material, and access technical assistance by telephone and email from regional consultants/mentors. It is anticipated, however,

that the real benefit of this programme will be to the medium and smaller councils as the larger councils are generally well advanced and better resourced to complete any reforms.

Finance Reference Group

Councils and the LGAQ have continually raised the issue of the appropriate framework for financial reporting for Local Government entities in Queensland. As Local Governments continue to implement competition reforms and their businesses begin to operate in a more competitive environment it is essential that councillors (as the Board of Management) and community members (as the shareholders) be presented with information that is both useful and informative. Effective management and resource allocation decision-making can only be achieved if relevant and reliable information is presented in a timely manner.

In addition to AAS27 requirements, Queensland Local Governments prepare extra financial statements that many believe are onerous and of little value. Similarly, little attention is given to the preparation of appropriate/ complementary financial management reporting. This does not mean that councils are not focused on prudent financial management. The problem appears to be that there is no mechanism that allows this information to be prepared independently of public sector general-purpose financial statements.

Water reform

With the introduction of the new *Water Act 2000*, the Association has directed considerable efforts toward issues of implementation of the requirements of the Act. The Act provides for water use planning, management and allocation; a regulatory framework for water asset management, customer service standards and dam safety; and governance of water supply statutory authorities of the State Government.

With Local Government concerns on the directions of implementation in mind, expert Local Government consultants have been commissioned to examine the likely impacts on councils of new water allocation processes arising from the Act. The review will also look at how councils and ratepayers may be affected as a result of pricing policies accompanying the corporatisation of State Water Projects. The Association has engaged a consultant to examine council concerns on the potential for substantial increases in bulk water charges associated with new contracts.

The review will be of particular interest to the 30 or more Queensland councils that source all or part of their bulk water supplies from SunWater, formerly known as State Water Projects. Case studies will be used to illustrate the likely effects of current policies upon councils and ratepayers. The final report will provide background on issues and concerns raised by councils as well as providing a basis for the Association to develop responses to government on behalf of members.

As regards the Act's provision for regulation of service provision (asset management plans, customer service standards etc), and subject to the State Government finalising implementation guidelines, the Association will this financial year commence a series of council seminars to promote understanding of, and provide advice on, implementing these particular requirements.

Western Australia

Department of Local Government and Regional Development

Performance measurement

Despite the requirements of the Western Australian *Local Government Act 1995*, most Local Governments have not achieved a satisfactory level of performance measurement and disclosure. Consequently, the development of any comparative indicators has been limited

to that capable of being calculated from data available in annual financial statements or through information returns to other agencies.

From the data that are available, the original range of 30 comparative indicators is being expanded and, where possible, designed to achieve a degree of comparability with those used in other States. Complete comparability is not possible due to legislative differences, data availability and data quality. It is proposed that the indicators will be published in time series format on the department's web site commencing in December 2002 and be ongoing as data become available.

On 1 July 2001 the Western Australian Government created the Department of Local Government and Regional Development from the previous Department of Local Government, Office of Regional Development and the Westlink satellite services.

Work on processing the 2000–01 data was interrupted for a short period but has recommenced and will continue as an ongoing project.

Western Australian Local Government Association

Structural reform

Chapter 4 of the National Report 2000–01 identifies that the number of Local Governments in mainland Western Australia has remained relatively unchanged, falling from 147 in 1910 to 142 in 2001.

Political and structural issues have, since the early 1990s, prevailed in States such as Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia to facilitate substantial reductions in the number of Local Governments. These circumstances did not necessarily translate to Western Australia.

The Western Australian approach has been for government and the Local Government sector to avoid any forced amalgamations which,

accordingly, would not engender widespread elected body and community support.

The geographic, economic and social landscape of Western Australia is such that many rural/remote Local Governments in particular lack the structural attributes and financial and physical resources necessary to provide an opportunity or incentive for amalgamation with adjoining areas. The State Government, supported by the Association, has relied instead on pursuing cooperative, constructive engagement between Local Governments, including initiatives such as resource and information sharing in the pursuit of effectiveness and efficiency outcomes.

The Association's work in encouraging effectiveness and efficiency can be seen in its promotion of benchmarking and best practice initiatives among member Local Governments. Examples of these efforts can be seen in the Association's annual Best Practice in Local Government Awards framework and ongoing work undertaken in collaboration with key stakeholders, notably the Department of Local Government and Regional Development and Local Government Managers Australia.

The Western Australian State–Local Government Partnership Framework

Ongoing negotiations have been undertaken involving the State Government and the Association and other Local Government stakeholder bodies with a view to establishing a partnership framework that enhances communication and more clearly defines the intergovernmental relationship between both spheres. In the process, this proposed framework is aimed at fostering efficiency of service delivery and achieving certainty in financial resourcing in the context of State to Local Government partnership agreements. A submission seeking endorsement of the partnership framework has recently been presented to Cabinet.

South Australia

Department for Transport, Urban Planning and the Arts

Local Government reform

A change of government in South Australia during the year saw the Local Government Reform Programme change direction. Between 1995 and 2002 the programme involved three phases, beginning with a strong emphasis on boundary restructuring and moving through legislative reform to clarification of roles and responsibilities between State and Local Government.

The phases were closely interrelated and overlapping.

The third phase of functional and related financial reform proceeded under the general title of the State/Local Government Partnerships Programme. It followed the voluntary amalgamations of councils under the Local Government Boundary Reform Board – reducing the number of South Australian councils from 118 to 68 – and the re-write of the Local Government Act that brought to the Local Government system a modern, comprehensively updated set of constitutional and operational legislative provisions. The programme aimed to coordinate development of new and better ways for State and Local Government to work together to improve service delivery to the community.

Preliminary reviews by both sectors and a joint scoping study were designed to develop a shared understanding of the objectives of the Partnerships Programme and to identify practical opportunities and priorities for advancing the reform agenda.

The incoming Government redirected the reform programme with a view to achieving more concrete outcomes.

Building from the previous work, six principles inform the Government's reform priorities.

These are:

- honest and accountable government
- mutual respectful State–Local Government relationships
- enhanced capacity of Local Government to provide community leadership
- fairer and more equitable arrangements for funding Local Government
- best practice industrial relations
- consistent and coordinated government, strategically aligned.

The redirected reform programme has seen the establishing of a Minister's Local Government Forum, with a broad ranging membership of State and Local Government elected members and officers including Ministers, the President of the Local Government Association, and Mayors and Chief Executive Officers of councils and Chief Executives of State agencies. Initial issues proposed for the Agenda for the forthcoming year were:

- drainage and stormwater management
- development planning
- regional passenger transport
- integrated natural resource management
- waste management
- small scale minerals extraction

Operation of new Local Government legislation

The framework now provided by the *Local Government Act 1999* specifies the role of Local Government elected members, as members of the governing body of the council, in reviewing the effectiveness of council's objectives and policies, and reviewing the efficiency and effectiveness of council's service delivery, resource allocation, expenditure and activities.

All councils were required to develop and adopt strategic management plans for the management of their areas by 1 July 2002.

The strategic management plans must identify the council's objectives for the area and provide a clear indication of matters such as:

- the extent to which the council intends to coordinate with State and national government in the planning and delivery of services in which there is a common interest
- the measures (financial and non-financial) that are to be used to monitor and assess the performance of the council over the relevant period
- the relationship between the council's objectives and activities, and its rating policy
- the means by which its activities are to be carried out, with particular reference to its policies on contracts and tenders (which include policies on the contracting out of services and competitive tendering and the use of other measures to ensure that services are delivered cost-effectively)
- issues associated with arranging its affairs so as to separate its regulatory activities from its other activities.

Moreover, councils must adopt a process or processes to ensure that members of the public are given a reasonable opportunity to be involved in the development and review (at least every three years) of their strategic management plans.

These plans form part of a clear accountability cycle and management framework which requires councils to link strategic plans with operational plans and policies designed to achieve the objectives which have been identified, to set out ways of monitoring whether their activities are achieving their objectives, and to report on these in their annual reports.

The Office of Local Government, together with the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA), is supporting councils' development of their strategic management plans and associated policies in a variety of ways, ranging from the provision of training and advice to targeted financial and practical assistance for smaller rural councils under the 'Supporting rural councils' programme.

Under the new Government, increased emphasis is being placed on strengthening the authority and relevance of the State-wide Planning Strategy and related documents to support more efficient and effective linking of resource use by both State and Local Governments.

Progress in developing performance indicators

In South Australia work on the development of performance measures continued to be led by the LGASA through its 'Comparative performance measurement' project. It was agreed at the outset of the project that leadership by Local Government in this area is the most likely strategy to achieve ownership and commitment of the process and its outcomes by councils. The Office of Local Government is represented on the project's steering committee.

Early work on the project confirmed that, generally speaking, Local Government in this State is supportive of a sector-wide comparative performance measurement system.

The four key outcomes of the project are:

- development of performance measures that can be used for comparative purposes
- collection of performance information on a uniform basis
- a measurement system that will enable councils to compare their performance with others, and ultimately
- implementation of benchmarking between councils.

LGASA has completed the development of 18 sector-wide comparative corporate performance measures in a project funded by the Local Government Research and Development Scheme. Five pilot councils and a larger network of 18 councils were involved in the development and testing phase.

Data for the measures have been collected from various sources, including a community survey of 12 500 residents undertaken by Roy Morgan Research early in 2002. Individual results for all 68 councils will be distributed in September to be followed by a round of regional presentations and ongoing support services.

LGASA will collect and distribute performance information annually.

Tasmania

Department of Premier and Cabinet

National Competition Policy

In June 1996, as required under the Competition Principles Agreement, the former Tasmanian Government submitted to the National Competition Council a policy statement called 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government (Application Statement)'. This statement was prepared by the then State Government, in consultation with Local Government, and provided a broad policy statement on how it intended the key principles, where appropriate, be applied to Local Government.

A review of the Application Statement is under way. The purpose of the review is to assist Local Government in the continued application of competition principles to its activities by ensuring that its obligations are expressed clearly in the policy statement.

Progress to date on applying competitive neutrality, prices oversight and legislation review to Local Government is outlined below.

Competitive neutrality

Under the Application Statement, when applying competitive neutrality principles, councils are required to:

- identify relevant business activities considered to be significant business activities
- undertake public benefit assessments of the corporatisation of those business activities classified as public trading enterprises under the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Government Financial Statistics Classification, as outlined in the Application Statement (generally water and sewerage)
- corporatise those public trading enterprises where a public benefit assessment indicates that the benefits outweigh the costs of doing so or apply full cost attribution to all other significant business activities.

Accordingly, councils undertook public benefit assessments of the corporatisation of their public trading enterprises during 1999.

All councils found that corporatisation of their public trading enterprises would not be in the public benefit, mainly due to the small size of Tasmanian councils and therefore of their business activities. These results were submitted to a peer review group consisting of the Local Government Association of Tasmania and council representatives. The peer review group endorsed the results of the public benefit assessments and provided a recommendation to the Treasurer to this effect in November 1999. The Treasurer endorsed the public benefit assessment and the outcome of the peer review assessment on 3 December 1999.

The joint bulk water authorities – Hobart Water, Esk Water and Cradle Coast Water – have been corporatised under the Local Government Act, independent of this process.

Councils are continuing to apply full cost attribution to their business activities in a form appropriate to their size. Importantly, the Local Government Act was amended in 1999 to require councils to disclose the full cost of operating their significant business activities in their annual reports.

To comply with the competitive neutrality principles, the Local Government Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet has developed a community service obligation policy and guidelines framework for councils. This policy is consistent with the policy applying to the State Government's government business enterprises.

The main objectives of the community service obligation policy are to:

- ensure that a council's social and other objectives are achieved without impacting on the commercial performance of its significant business activities
- improve the transparency, equity and efficiency of Community Service Obligation service delivery
- be consistent with National Competition Principle requirements.

The policy was implemented in early 2001, in accordance with Tasmania's National Competition Principle obligations.

The Application Statement also requires a competitive neutrality complaints mechanism to be established. This mechanism was established under the Government Prices Oversight Regulations. Under the regulations, a person who believes that he or she has been adversely affected by a contravention of the competitive neutrality principles may lodge a complaint with the Government Prices Oversight Commission, which has responsibility for investigating all alleged breaches of the competitive neutrality principles in the State.

Overseeing prices

The Application Statement provided that Local Government monopoly or near monopoly providers were to be brought under the prices oversight jurisdiction of the Commission. The *Government Prices Oversight Amendment Act 1997* extended the coverage of the *Government Prices Oversight Act 1995* to include Local Government monopoly or near-monopoly services.

In addition, in accordance with the Agreement to Implement the National Competition Policy and Related Reforms, Tasmania is required to implement the Council of Australian Governments' *Strategic Framework for the Efficient and Sustainable Reform of the Australian Water Industry* (Strategic Framework). The Strategic Framework requires metropolitan bulk water suppliers to charge on a volumetric basis to recover all costs. Metropolitan bulk water suppliers are to also earn a positive real rate of return on the written-down replacement costs of their assets.

The Local Government Regulations 2000 were amended in late 2000 to require councils to incorporate in their annual reports a statement of plans for the supply of domestic water and sufficient financial information to demonstrate that the Urban Water Pricing Guidelines for Local Government in Tasmania are being applied in relation to the supply of domestic water. The previous requirement was for a statement to appear in council's operating plans for the forthcoming year.

Against this background, the Commission was required to undertake an investigation into the pricing policies associated with provision of bulk water by the Hobart Regional Water Authority, the Esk Water Authority and the North West Regional Water Authority in 1998. As a result, the Commission recommended maximum prices (in the form of maximum revenues and pricing principles) to be charged by each of the State's three bulk water authorities for a three-year

period commencing 1 July 1999. The Government endorsed the Commission's pricing principles for bulk water.

Treatment of Local Government by-laws

The Local Government Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet has ongoing responsibility for the Local Government by-laws component of the Legislation Review Programme, which is part of the Tasmanian Government's commitment to implementation of National Competition Policy. This responsibility involves the review of both existing and proposed by-laws for compliance with NCP principles.

In 1997, the division first prepared and distributed the *By-law making procedures manual* to all councils to explain the review process and the requirements expected in the adoption of a proposed new by-law which could have an impact on competition or the conduct of business. By 1999, the review had resulted in the expiry of the remaining 500+ by-laws made by councils under the former *Local Government Act 1962* (since repealed) and the progressive rationalisation of the matters dealt with in by-laws.

All the current 140 by-laws in force since the commencement in early 1994 of the *Local Government Act 1993* have been the subject of the review regime. Each by-law has a maximum life of 8 years, which ensures that the justification for the by-law has to be re-examined by the council if a replacement is contemplated.

The requirement in the manual for the preparation of a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) outlining the effects of a proposed by-law as part of public consultation by the council before its adoption was made a statutory obligation in 1999. Rigour is applied in the identification and detail of community impacts of an economic, social or environmental nature and provision of opportunity for comment.

This level of examination of the proposed by-law and the associated RIS has been a requirement of the Director of Local Government when issuing the necessary certificate before a council can commence the consultation process on the new by-law.

A new version of the manual is being prepared to reflect the greater emphasis since 1999 on justification of the by-law, the role of the Regulatory Impact Statement and the outcomes from public consultation.

Progress in developing performance indicators

The aim of the Tasmanian Measuring Council Performance Project is to provide a comprehensive framework of key performance indicators (KPIs) for Tasmanian Local Government.

The KPIs provide an industry-wide framework for measuring and comparing the performance of councils. The KPIs promote:

- enhanced performance measurement by councils
- benchmarking and identification of best practice
- improved accountability to the community
- establishing performance trends over time.

The framework provides councils, individually and collectively, with:

- practical tools to measure and compare results against agreed performance outcomes and best practice standards
- targets and strategies for councils to continuously innovate and improve the performance of their functions, including efficient and effective service provision and operations
- synergies to expand councils' capacities to produce better economic, social and environmental outcomes for residents and the community.

The Federal Government provided a grant of \$55 000 under the Local Government Incentive Programme to help implement the performance measurement system. This funding finishes on 30 June 2003. A project steering committee (the KPI Committee) comprising State and Local Government officers and the Chairperson of the Local Government Board, was established to oversee introduction of the performance measurement system for Tasmanian councils.

The KPI Committee has refined the performance indicators developed by the KPI Steering Committee in 1999. Council performance was measured by 51 KPIs in the 2000–01 report. All 29 Tasmanian councils provided their data on a voluntary basis for the 1999–2000 and 2000–01 Reports.

The project has been, and will continue to be, a joint effort of both State and Local Government. There is strong support for the measurement system from Local Government.

The State Government, through its initiative funding, has allocated sufficient resources to ensure successful ongoing operation of the KPI framework. The data collection form developed for the project includes not only the data for the KPI project but also existing data requirements of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the State Grants Commission and the Department of Treasury and Finance. This consolidated data collection process was used successfully for the 2000–01 report.

Customer satisfaction with council services is an important indicator. To satisfy this need the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) developed a community opinion survey that can be used by all councils and adapted for their particular requirements. The survey was run in 2001 and is due to run again in 2002. The survey was developed and carried out with funding from the Local Government Incentive Programme.

The first report, *Measuring Council Performance In Tasmania 1999–2000*, was released on 1 October 2001. The report for 2000–01 was released on 4 April 2002. The report for 2001–02 is due for release by April 2003.

The reports have proved useful for councils both for internal monitoring and in relation to their performance compared with similar councils. Both council staff and elected members have welcomed the reports.

The KPI Committee is to undertake a series of workshops around Tasmania to discuss aspects of data collection and analyses. These workshops will be held before the data collection sheets are sent to councils for the 2001/2002 data. Feedback from the workshops will also be used by the KPI Committee to review some of the definitions to ensure that comparisons are valid over time and between jurisdictions.

With two years data it has not been possible to undertake time series analysis or even to present the information graphically. As more data becomes available the KPI Committee will be looking at revising its dissemination strategy and presentation of the performance measures.

Local Government Board

The Local Government Board provides another method of assessing council performance. It was initially established in 1987 under the *Local Government Act 1962*, and was continued under the *Local Government Act 1993*. Its main role has been to carry out reviews of councils on matters such as boundaries, amalgamations, electoral districts, council names and the numbers of elected councillors.

The role of the Board changed when it was reconstituted in December 1998. The board has broadened the scope of general reviews to include governance and operational matters, and developed guidelines for general reviews

to ensure that the process is meaningful and of particular assistance to the council being reviewed.

The Board consists of:

- Mr David Lovell, Chairperson, who has experience in Local Government and was appointed by the Minister
- Mr Brian Dowse, nominated by the Local Government Association of Tasmania
- Mr Paul Arnold, nominated by the Local Government Managers Australia
- Mr Trevor Cordwell, who has experience in Local Government and was appointed by the previous Minister
- Ms Marguerite Scott, Director of Local Government – a statutory appointment.

The Local Government Board is required by the Act to undertake a general review of each council at least every eight years.

The Board addresses the following issues in each general review:

- municipal boundary or name changes
- governance
- regulatory functions
- community development, communication and consultation
- equity, access and human resource management
- asset management
- financial matters
- external relations.

The Board has substantially completed five general reviews during the 2001–02 financial year: Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council, Kentish Council, Kingborough Council, Hobart City Council and Northern Midlands Council.

Board reports can be found at <http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/lgo/>

Northern Territory

Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs

Progress in developing performance indicators

The aim of the Northern Territory performance indicators programme is to introduce performance management tools to all councils in the Territory in such a way as to ensure that they become an integrated and valuable part of community management practices. In support of this aim, the Department of Local Government has linked the development and implementation of performance indicators for local governing bodies to the introduction of its best practice programme.

While reporting of performance information is well within the capacity of the municipal and larger councils, it is recognised that the capacity to provide this information is more difficult for the smaller and remote councils. Consequently, the performance indicators programme consists of two streams.

The municipal and larger councils, which comprised the first stream, collected a full set of quantitative performance information on the three identified core services – roads, waste management and community management. The second stream, consisting of the smaller and remote councils, is less advanced.

During 1999–00, 42 councils in the Northern Territory councils were invited to participate in the Local Government performance programme and returned comparative data. This year, as in the previous year, all councils were invited to participate. However, 45 councils failed to return their surveys. This failure rate compares with 30 in the previous year. Of the 45 councils, most have identified a number of reasons for not providing the required data. A review of the performance indicators and the method of collecting relevant data are under way.

The fourth annual report is being prepared for publication. Performance indicators highlight differences between councils for specific activities but do not explain why these differences may have occurred. For this reason contextual and descriptive information for each of the participating councils was collected and include explanations of the circumstances and results provided by the councils themselves.

The report will not provide benchmarks against which to assess 'satisfactory' performance. Instead, contextual information is being provided that will assist councils in identifying similar councils against which their performance may be assessed.

Australian Capital Territory

Department of Urban Services

No waste by 2010

A new Resource Management Centre opened in April 2002, replacing the general waste acceptance operations in Belconnen. The focus of the new facility is on resource recovery and reuse, rather than disposal to landfill. Incentive payments are available to the operators if they recover more than the targeted quantities of recyclable materials.

Improvements to service

There are currently four contracts for collection and processing of domestic waste and recyclable materials in the ACT. To improve the overall service delivery with the establishment of the new contracts, the collection contracts are being combined into one contract and the processing of recyclable materials will be established as a separate contract. The benefits of this initiative are economies of a larger scale, reduced management requirements and reduced vehicle fleet requirements.

Recyclables will be collected in a single chamber bin rather than the current divided bins to improve the ease of use by residents, increase

the bins' capacity to recover a wider range of materials, reduce the incidence of street littering and lower the collection costs as the same trucks, depot and management can be used for garbage and recycling collections.

Roads ACT – contracts

In 2001–02, Roads ACT developed new performance-based stormwater maintenance contracts with ActewAGL based on specifications similar to AUSSPEC. The contract is for the maintenance of the stormwater pipe network, engineered lined and unlined channels, cut-off drains, retarding basins, gross pollutant traps and the dam embankments that provide storage of the water quality ponds.

In October 2001 the streetlight maintenance contract was benchmarked and commenced with ActewAGL. The contract is a performance-based contract based on specifications similar to AUSSPEC and covers the maintenance of streetlight assets on the arterial and urban road network, including high use areas such as shopping precincts, footpath and cyclepath networks.

Expressions of interest have been sought for the development of software for a new integrated asset management system. The system will allow more effective and efficient prioritising and management of Local Government asset maintenance. The system will commence data population and implementation in the 2002–03 financial year.

Canberra Urban Parks and Places

In 2001–02, Canberra Urban Parks and Places, as the purchaser of park and public place maintenance services, continued to focus on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of delivery of services by:

- developing asset management plans, including 20-year predictive financial modelling
- developing a new customer satisfaction survey which measures customers' interactions with Canberra urban parks and places
- piloting a recreation programme to encourage better interaction with targeted community groups resulting in better informed decision-making
- initiating a sustainable parks management strategy to address long-term environmental sustainability benefits to the community.

APPENDIX H

PROGRESS REPORTS ON IMPROVEMENTS
IN SERVICE PROVISION
TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

State lead agencies and Local Government Associations have provided the following reports on service provision to Indigenous communities.

New South Wales

Department of Local Government

Local Government Aboriginal Network

The New South Wales Department of Local Government has in past years supported Aboriginal Network Conferences with the host council taking responsibility for organising and running the individual conference. The department has, however, been gradually reducing its participation while maintaining a role in supporting each conference through publicity and by providing assistance and advice to the host councils. In 2001–02 there were two conferences, one hosted by Great Lakes Council in October 2001 and the other hosted by Greater Taree City Council in March 2002.

Reconciliation

The Department of Local Government supports the principles of reconciliation through the Local Government Aboriginal Network conferences. These conferences provide an invaluable

opportunity for networking, raising cultural awareness and sharing ideas. They also provide a forum for discussing Local Government-related issues.

Aboriginal Mentoring Programme

This programme provides an opportunity for Aboriginal community members to gain a greater insight into Local Government and to encourage more people to run for office at local council elections.

An evaluation of the programme began in March 1999 and data collection was completed by December 1999. The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the effectiveness of the programme, identify factors affecting its effectiveness and improve its operation.

All New South Wales councils were provided with a report on findings from the evaluation, to encourage more councils to participate. The report is available on the Department of Local Government website at www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/dlg_home.asp

Local government advisory committees

Establishing Local Government advisory committees in councils has provided a mechanism crucial to free and open communication between Aboriginal communities and local councils. The function of these committees is to improve communication, understanding and trust between Aboriginal people and Local Government. These committees, in many Local Government areas, have proved to be the key to resolving issues such as provision of water and sewerage services. As at 30 June 2001, 63 councils had established advisory consultative committees. This programme will continue to be supported through joint arrangements with Lgov NSW (formerly the Local Government and Shires Associations of New South Wales).

Local government – agreements with Aboriginal communities

The Department of Local Government in partnership with the Lgov NSW has worked to develop local agreements between councils and Aboriginal communities about infrastructure needs and maintenance and provision of council services.

In 2000, agreement was reached to establish a single position of Aboriginal Policy Officer with the Associations, supported by funding from the Department of Local Government, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Premiers Department. One of the principal functions of this position will be to further develop agreements with Aboriginal communities and councils.

Social plans

Under the Local Government Act all councils in NSW are required to develop a social/community plan at least every five years. A social/community plan examines the needs of the local community including groups which may be disadvantaged in some way, and formulates strategies which

council and/or other agencies could implement to address identified needs. The social plan identifies specific policies and action plans for seven mandatory target groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Through this process, councils may identify issues and services they should be addressing in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

A review of the first council social/community plans in 1999 found that 93 per cent identified and addressed the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Councils that did not do this were advised accordingly by the department.

Councils are expected to report in their annual reports about activities designed to target Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in accordance with identified needs. Reviews of councils' annual reports in 1999–00 and 2000–01 found that about 90 per cent of reports included information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander activities. Detailed information on how councils service their Aboriginal communities through their social plans can be obtained directly from local councils.

Lgov New South Wales*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities*

Following the decision of the 2000 Annual Conference to invite Aboriginal Land Councils to become members, the State Land Councils were fully represented at the 2001 Conference of the Local Government Association of NSW. The Aboriginal Land Councils are now full members of the Local Government Association of NSW. This is a first for the Local Government Association to include the NSW Aboriginal Land Councils as recognised Local Governments.

Victoria

Department of Infrastructure

The Victorian Local Government sector now has a valuable resource document, *Toomnangi*, which reports on Local Government relationships and initiatives pertaining to Indigenous communities in Victoria, based on a study which involved all 78 Victorian Local Governments. *Toomnangi* is the result of the sector-wide survey undertaken in 2001 by the inter-agency coordinating committee established jointly by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and the Municipal Association of Victoria (see the Association's report below). The Department of Infrastructure (DOI) is a significant member of this standing committee, and DOI's Local Government Division contributed to data collection and reporting, the publication and the launch of the report.

Toomnangi, which means 'to pass on information', provides Local Government with case studies, examples, statistics and ideas on initiatives that can strengthen community relationships and can help advance the reconciliation process.

The study identified factors that influence the nature of relationships between Local Government and Indigenous communities, such as the availability of Local Government resources and the dispersed populations of Indigenous communities in Victoria. The report identified a number of areas that need more attention from the sector as a whole, such as the need for a champion in council to promote and encourage Indigenous issues and involvement.

This report is available at
www.mav.asn.au/Toomnangi.pdf

Municipal Association of Victoria

Compared with other States and Territories, there is a relatively small Indigenous population in

Victoria – an average of 0.5 per cent in each municipality. However, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has continued to support and encourage councils to advance Indigenous issues through supporting the Local Government Indigenous Network.

In 2002, the MAV completed its funding agreement with the Victorian Department of Justice to assist the establishment of the Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committees (RAJAC), a core initiative of the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement. Under the agreement, the MAV provided free administration and employed six Aboriginal executive officers to support the committees. The MAV also held and disbursed funds on behalf of the Department of Justice for the Community Initiatives Programme to assist in the commissioning of research and development of projects that met the objectives of the Victorian Aboriginal Justice Agreement.

The MAV coordinated a sector-wide survey culminating in the publication of *Toomnangi: Indigenous Communities and Local Government* in 2002. *Toomnangi* provides valuable information about Indigenous issues and activities by councils throughout Victoria and is the first major initiative of the Indigenous Inter-Agency Coordination Committee for Local Government. The Committee was formed to improve agencies' governance responsibilities towards Indigenous Australians.

Queensland

Department of Local Government and Planning

In Queensland, the Department of Local Government and Planning, the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy, and the Queensland State Library have all made significant contributions to improving service provision to Indigenous communities.

Initiatives

Smaller Communities Assistance Programme

The Smaller Communities Assistance Programme (SCAP) has a budget of \$150 million over ten years to 2005–06. Its aim is to assist local governing bodies to provide reliable water supply and sewerage services of an acceptable standard and cost to communities with populations fewer than 5000 persons. The current methodology used to determine the level of SCAP assistance to councils is to assess each council's capacity to meet the costs from its internal sources and then provide top-up funding.

Although largely targeted at Local Governments, the programme can also be accessed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils that meet the guidelines which, in the past have been difficult for most due to a requirement to commit to ongoing operation, maintenance and asset replacement.

In six previous SCAP rounds of funding allocations the following communities with significant Indigenous populations were successful in obtaining assistance:

Councils/Communities funded	Funding
Aurukun Shire Council	\$100 000
Burke Shire Council	
• Burketown	\$4 297 336
• Gregory	\$1 143 000
Torres Shire Council	
• Prince of Wales Island	\$240 000
• Thursday Island	\$1 800 000
Cook Shire Council	
• Cooktown	\$9 500 000
• Coen/Laura	\$4 196 993
Hopevale	\$2 600 000
Stage 2 of the Major Infrastructure Programme on Torres Strait Islands	\$13 025 000

Rural Living Infrastructure Programme

Under the Rural Living Infrastructure Programme, \$16 million is available to local governing bodies over four years for promoting:

- new or upgraded community infrastructure in rural communities
- enhanced economic and tourism development opportunities
- greater incentives for people to live in rural towns.

Funding available through the programme is directed to local governing bodies with populations of fewer than 15 000. This requirement makes Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils eligible for assistance. In recent rounds of allocations, the following Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils or communities with significant Indigenous populations were successful in obtaining assistance:

Councils/communities funded	Funding
Badu Island Council	\$33 000
Bamaga Island Council	\$150 000
Burke Shire Council (Burketown)	\$65 000
Cherbourg Aboriginal Council	\$41 935
Hammond Island Council	\$7 934
Hopevale Aboriginal Council	\$45 000
Mapoon Aboriginal Council	\$60 000
Napranum Aboriginal Council	\$65 000
New Mapoon Aboriginal Council	\$47 000
Palm Island Aboriginal Council	\$97 500
St Paul's Island Council	\$100 000
Stephen Island Council	\$90 000
Torres Shire Council	\$50 000
Yarrabah Aboriginal Council	\$90 126

Security Improvement Programme

Under the Security Improvement Programme, \$2 million a year is available to provide up to 60 per cent subsidy to local governing bodies for expenditure on security measures, such as surveillance equipment, lighting, emergency telephones and modifications to public facilities, in existing places. In recent allocations Napranum Community Council successfully obtained funding of \$33 000.

*The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy initiatives**Community governance*

The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy (DATSIP) administers the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* and the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984*, which provide for the system of Local Government for 32 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Queensland.

There are 15 Aboriginal councils and 17 Torres Strait Islander councils established under the respective Acts. Each of these councils has Local Government jurisdiction for the area for which they are established including the ability to make by-laws about various matters. These councils also undertake a range of additional functions including housing, community policing, various enterprises and Commonwealth and State Government funded programmes.

State Government Financial Aid Programme

Funding of \$18.5 million is provided annually to Aboriginal and Island councils under the State Government Financial Aid Programme as a financial contribution (in lieu of rates) to meeting costs associated with Local Government operations, financial administration, essential services and community police.

Financial Accountability Improvement Programme

Funding of \$1.9 million was provided in 2001–02 under the Financial Accountability Improvement Programme to assist Aboriginal and Island councils to meet their financial accountability obligations and to improve systems of financial management. This included funding for internal audit services, accounting support, professional development for council employees and the appointment of financial controllers for two councils.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Infrastructure Programme

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Infrastructure Programme provides financial assistance for significant upgrading of environmental health infrastructure for remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The majority of this funding has been used to improve basic water and waste disposal arrangements in the 32 communities established under the Community Services Acts. In the 2001–02 financial year \$10.3 million was provided under this programme.

Council Chambers Capital Works Programme

Funding of \$5.8 million was secured in the 1999–00 State Budget for the construction of new council chambers at the Bamaga Island community and the Aboriginal communities of Lockhart River, Mapoon and Woorabinda over the 1999–2000 and 2000–01 financial years. An additional \$1 million was provided in the 2001–02 financial year to complete the New Mapoon Council Chambers. All projects were completed in 2001–02.

Motor Vehicle and Heavy Equipment Programme

The Motor Vehicle and Heavy Equipment Programme provides grants to Aboriginal councils to acquire or make capital repairs to motor vehicles and heavy equipment used to maintain

and develop infrastructure and to deliver essential Local Government services. The programme also supports the operation of the Torres Strait Heavy Equipment Management and Training Project. In a joint arrangement, DATSIP, the Torres Strait Regional Authority, the Island Co-ordinating Council and the Department of Main Roads contributes to the funding, co-ordination and training of the project. The project operates a pool of heavy equipment, which is deployed on a rotational basis to Island councils and provides training in the operation of plant and equipment for community members. The total funding for 2001–02 was \$1.3 million.

State Library of Queensland initiatives

In 2001–02, the State Library developed the Indigenous Library Services Strategy, which aims to:

- establish Indigenous Knowledge Centres in DOGIT communities in the Cape York and Torres Strait;
- improve library service delivery to Indigenous peoples in public libraries throughout Queensland;
- increase employment and training opportunities;
- include services to Indigenous people through the Millennium Library Project; and
- ensure Indigenous collections and culture are represented appropriately in library spaces.

Indigenous Knowledge Centres will provide traditional library services as well as services based on the oral and visual traditions of Indigenous culture. Indigenous Knowledge Centres will use multi media technologies to facilitate information access, content creation, creative learning programs and skills development. The State Library is working in partnership with Aboriginal Coordinating Councils, Island Coordinating Councils, and other government agencies to establish the Centres.

Western Australia

Department of Local Government and Regional Development

Local government delivery of services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Western Australia needs to be seen within the context of national initiatives and more recent developments at Western Australian Government level, including Machinery of Government structural changes to the State public sector and specific agreements in relation to Indigenous matters.

Western Australian Government Statement of Commitment

On 10 October 2001, the Premier, Dr Geoff Gallop, and Mr Ian Trust, chairperson of the ATSIC State Council, signed the Statement of Commitment, formalising a new partnership between the State Government and the Aboriginal community of Western Australia as a basis for reconciliation.

It is intended that the partnership framework will establish State-wide policies and administrative arrangements to support negotiations and agreements at the regional and local level and to support Aboriginal people in negotiating regional and local agreements according to the priorities of Aboriginal people, in partnership with other stakeholders. The framework will incorporate:

- a whole of government/community approach on negotiated policy benchmarks and targets
- regional negotiated agreements incorporating integrated planning which involves ATSIC, community organisations and State and Local Government
- agreed processes for the audit and evaluation of negotiations and outcomes
- reform of government and Aboriginal organisational infrastructure where required

to ensure implementation of the partnership agreement.

Indigenous Affairs Advisory Committee

At the time the Statement of Commitment was announced, the Premier also advised of the establishment of the Indigenous Affairs Advisory Committee (IAAC). One of the committee's aims is a better use of resources and it will identify priorities and work with all agencies to achieve outcomes. The IAAC is the conduit to the State Cabinet Standing Committee on Social Policy and the vehicle through which agreed policy affecting Indigenous people and communities will be implemented.

The committee has subsequently determined six areas where it will focus its attention. These are as follows:

- the Tjurabalan project (associated with Native Title arrangements)
- the Martu project (also associated with Native Title arrangements)
- the Northbridge project
- child abuse in Indigenous communities
- improving retention and academic achievement of Indigenous children through sports and recreation
- the development of agreed Indigenous benchmarks.

Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Agreement

Nationally, the COAG agreement of 3 November 2000 involves a framework to advance reconciliation with Australia's Indigenous peoples and the direction of the Council that 'all Ministerial Councils develop action plans, performance reporting strategies and benchmarks'. In this context, the department has contributed to the development and implementation of the national Local Government Ministers' Conference (LGMC)

Reconciliation Action Plan. It was expected that the State Government response to COAG would propose actions to progress the projects already determined by the Indigenous Affairs Coordinating Committee.

DLGRD principal outcome and main activities

On 1 July 2001, as an outcome of Machinery of Government restructuring of Western Australian Government agencies, the Department of Local Government and Regional Development commenced operations. The department's principal outcome is 'Enhancing the development and capacity of communities through good governance, economic growth and social well-being'.

In achieving this outcome, its major activities relate to:

- providing support and advice to organisations involved in the development of Western Australia and in building stronger communities
- working with Local Governments to achieve the standards required by legislation
- providing assistance, including funding, to enhance the development of the regions and Local Governments
- implementing effective legislation in relevant areas and supporting its operation
- supporting individual and community capacity building, with particular emphasis on leadership and governance
- encouraging devolution of decision-making and service delivery to a regional and local level
- working towards equity of access to services across Western Australia.

The department also has a key role to play in assisting the Government to meet its strategic objectives of:

- a growing and diversified economy

- safe, healthy and supportive communities
- strong and vibrant regions
- honest, accountable and inclusive government.

DLGRD strategic approach to working with Indigenous people and communities

Within the broader scope of the department's role and functions, a high priority is being given to working with Indigenous people and communities. Early in 2002, the department prepared a draft strategic approach document outlining the approach to be taken to its work with Indigenous people and communities. It was circulated to main agencies and organisations in May 2002. Consultation on the approach was also initiated with the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA). The document will be forwarded to all Local Governments in the latter half of 2002 as a basis for the development of industry-wide and individual Local Government strategies and activities with Indigenous people and communities.

Integral to this work will be the 1995 Local Government Ministers' Conference resolution to improve Local Government service delivery to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

To support this work, a senior Indigenous Communities Development Officer position was established within the department as a joint initiative with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, the Department of Indigenous Affairs and the Department of Housing and Works. The main focus of the position is to work with Indigenous communities and Local Governments, providing information, advice and assistance and facilitating the provision of Local Government services in Indigenous communities. It is expected that the position will be filled and operational towards the end of 2002. In addition, a new Indigenous project

officer position will enhance the department's overall capacity in its work with Indigenous people and communities.

The strategic approach of the department has four main areas of focus and, for consistency, these are the same as those contained in the LGMC draft Reconciliation Action Plan.

They are as follows:

- the fostering of community leadership and governance
- facilitation of the provision and maintenance of local services
- the fostering of partnerships and linkages
- the fostering of economic development and independence.

Within each of these areas, there are a number of projects and initiatives which will be carried out over a three-year period. Each of these will involve Local Governments in some way.

Examples include:

- develop/contribute to the provision of leadership training appropriate to Indigenous communities
- work with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and the Department of Indigenous Affairs to determine effective ways to enhance the governance capacity within Indigenous communities
- undertake initiatives aimed at increasing the participation of Indigenous people in Local Government elections, including provision of information and a workshop for existing Indigenous councillors
- plan and conduct workshops across the State, bringing Local Government and Indigenous people together in a culturally appropriate way, to discuss and determine approaches to address matters of common concern
- support the development of a framework which facilitates linkages between planning

processes of Local Governments and ATSIC regional councils

- develop and implement, in conjunction with relevant Indigenous bodies and Regional Development Councils, a regional-specific cultural awareness strategy for Local Governments and regional organisations
- increase access of remote communities to telecommunication infrastructure and services through joint work by the Telecentre Support Service, ATSIC, ATSIC Regional Councils and Regional Development Commissions.

In working with Indigenous people and communities, the Department recognises all the principles underpinning the Western Australian Government's Statement of Commitment and, in particular, has undertaken to maintain the following principles in its own work:

- regional and local approaches to address issues which impact on Indigenous communities, families and individuals
- a commitment to improved governance, capacity building and economic independence
- recognition and acceptance of the importance of involving Indigenous people and communities in the determination of needs and appropriate responses to service provision and in the management of services and programmes
- the value of, and success to be achieved by, taking a partnership approach to service provision, including provision of appropriate supports for practical, sustainable and viable service delivery
- the need for service provision and agreements to reflect Indigenous values, decision-making processes and culture, including language, place, identity and land ownership and use as well as knowledge and skills
- the encouragement of, and support for, self-management, self-determination and

independence for Indigenous people and communities.

Interagency Indigenous Coordinating Group

With the change from the Department of Local Government to the Department of Local Government and Regional Development, the scope of the Ministerial Coordinating Group on Aboriginal Issues was widened and the group re-named the Interagency Indigenous Coordinating Group. The role of group is to provide a forum for the coordination by relevant agencies of activities and initiatives relating to Aboriginal people and communities within the context of the role of the Department of Local Government and Regional Development and the Local Government and regional development portfolio.

The overall aim of the Group is to improve Aboriginal participation in Local Government and regional development. To achieve this, the Group will work to the following terms of reference:

- To improve Local Government services to Aboriginal communities through:
 - the development of strategies to improve Aboriginal participation and involvement in Local Government
 - awareness raising with Aboriginal communities on the role of Local Government
 - promotion of increased awareness within Local Governments of Aboriginal issues and culture
 - the development of strategies and options to overcome constitutional, legislative, administrative, financial, cultural or other barriers to the effective delivery of Local Government services to Aboriginal communities
 - the development of a set of principles for the normalisation of Local Government

- services to Aboriginal communities consistent with the equitable delivery of those services
- the initiation and support of interagency pilot projects with the aim of normalising Local Government services to selected town based and large remote communities
- the consideration or coordination of related initiatives and programmes.
- To facilitate initiatives which will enhance the capacity and independence of Aboriginal people in decision-making and community governance.
- To enhance the development and capacity of Aboriginal people and communities through good governance, economic growth and social wellbeing.
- To facilitate interagency consideration of partnerships, joint working arrangements and agreements with Aboriginal communities relevant to the Local Government and regional development portfolio.

During 2001–02, the Group finalised the policy paper *Paying for services in Aboriginal communities*. This was submitted to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development for consideration and endorsement.

Other initiatives

During the year, the increasing involvement of Local Governments with Indigenous people and communities in their district was apparent. Examples follow.

- As part of the town reserves regularisation initiative, two formal agreements were signed between four town-based Aboriginal communities at Halls Creek, the Departments of Indigenous Affairs and Housing and Works, the Shire of Halls Creek and the Ngoonjuwah Council Aboriginal Corporation.
- At the City of Gosnells, the Indigenous Communities Liaison Officer Service

continued to provide a community intervention and mediation service. The City worked in partnership with a community group to provide the Southside Ngoongar Programmes for older children to orientate them to youth programmes and there was further development of the Aboriginal Collection in City's library. The Indigenous Youth Officer was involved in a number of projects, including the Banksia Hill Detention Centre Sports Mentoring Programme and family and youth camps, NAIDOC week activities, an Aboriginal sports carnival, an Indigenous Youth Forum and a Chill With Culture Family Day. Plans were also made in partnership with the community-based organisation Boolurlarri Community House to provide youth services, commencing 2002–03.

- In the Shire of Kojonup, 'Kodja Place', located in Kojonup and a tripartite initiative between the Shire of Kojonup, the Kojonup Aboriginal Corporation and local tourism operators, came to fruition. The initiative has been developed with full community involvement. The new building and surrounds that constitute Kodja Place house, the Tourist Bureau and the Aboriginal Cultural Interpretive Centre are an eco-museum for the whole community. An interpretive rose garden maze comprises over 2000 Australian-bred roses depicting story lines of three fictitious women of Australian, Aboriginal and Italian heritage, outlining their experiences since foundation to the present day. The Centre incorporates the history of the whole district from pre-history times to the present day and is providing employment opportunities for people in the community, including Aboriginal people. The 'kodja' is an axe used by Aboriginal people for their daily activities and is made from the local stone. Through the Local Government, the community has been able to access a kodja from the Western

Australian museum and the return of the axe to Kodja Place has been of great significance.

- In the Shire of Gnowangerup, the Stirling Ranges trail and Visitors Centre was initiated between the Aboriginal community, the then Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Great Southern Development Commission, with strong support from the Gnowangerup Shire Council.

South Australia

Department for Transport, Urban Planning and the Arts

In South Australia new strategic directions were pursued with the release of the report titled *Local councils belong to Aboriginal people 2*, August 2000. The report includes a series of recommendations to be progressively advanced over three years beginning 2000–01.

Recommendations relate to nine programme areas. During the 2001–02 reporting period progress has been made in the following programme areas.

Programme area: Coordination and Integration

Inter-Governmental Local Government/Aboriginal Network

Established in May 2001, the State Office of Local Government convenes the Inter-Governmental Local Government/Aboriginal Network. The Inter-Governmental Network provides a structured framework to promote shared strategic directions and effective working relationships between the three spheres of government. It operates at officer level. Among other matters, the network representatives have:

- met eight times and in line with advancing the report's recommendations, the meetings have provided the opportunity to invite representatives of the Aboriginal Lands Trust, PlanningSA, Office of Employment and Youth

and Social Inclusion Unit to canvas ideas, discuss issues and forward directions

- in November 2001 initiated discussions with ATSIC State Executive on opportunities for possible forward planning linkages (refer Local and Regional Planning below)
- participated in an April 2002 meeting with the ATSIC Nulla Wimila Kutju Regional Council (Port Augusta)
- participated in a Workshop convened by the ATSIC Wangka Wilurrara Regional Council and District Council of Ceduna on 19 April. The workshop, involving 60 people, facilitated discussions on the potential development of an agreement between the Regional Council and Ceduna Council
- scanned councils' annual reports 2000–01 for specific programmes developed by councils to meet the particular circumstances of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities within their areas.

Scanning councils' annual reports revealed a wide number of locally responsive initiatives, such as:

- giving Aboriginal place names to parks (City of Adelaide)
- an acknowledgment of the traditional owners of the land at the opening of Council meetings (Kurna people and City of Adelaide)
- establishing advisory committees to council (eg City of Salisbury Aboriginal Advisory Sub Committee, City of Port Augusta)
- involvement in significant community projects (eg City of Marion's Warriparinga joint initiative with the Kurna people)
- Indigenous Awards Programme (City of Port Adelaide Enfield)
- flying the Aboriginal flag (City of Tea Tree Gully)
- development of Statement of Reconciliation (City of Unley)

- arts and cultural celebrations (City of West Torrens)
- Indigenous employment strategies (District Council of Ceduna, City of Salisbury)
- liaison on developments and native title (District Council of Yorke Peninsula and the Narungga community on the Port Vincent Marina)
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study (City of Onkaparinga).

LGA's Aboriginal Policy Officers Network

Established in September 2000, the Local Government Association of SA convenes the Aboriginal Policy Officers Network. The network provides a consultation link between South Australian councils employing Aboriginal Policy Officers. Last year's report identified the eight councils employing APOs. Most recently, a new position with the City of Port Augusta has been created. Two nominees of the APO network are represented on the Inter-Governmental Network.

Programme area: Intergovernmental Relations

Framework for Governance project

From August to December 2001, the Framework for Governance project explored the nature of 'Local Government-type services', the principles of good governance and relevant cultural issues. It picked up on the Local Government legislative provisions as they relate to governance as much as possible and dealt with Local Government-type services resulting in a 'generic' framework. The report specifically applied the 'generic' Framework for Governance to the Nepabunna Community Council, building on its existing Constitution, and provides Council with a Governance Statement and a practical Governance Framework. On the latter, a short booklet has been produced. Funded by the Office of Local Government, the working group to this project comprised representatives of the Department of State Aboriginal Affairs (Chair),

Office of Local Government, SA Local Government Grants Commission, Nepabunna Community Council, ATSIC Nulla Wimila Kutju Regional Council (Port Augusta), ATSIC State Policy Office, and the Local Government Association of SA.

Local Government Association membership

Anangu Pitjantjatjara Inc became a member of the Local Government Association of SA in April 1995. In April 2001 Nepabunna Community Council (near Leigh Creek) became an associate member and in May 2002 Gerard Community Reserve (near Berri) joined as an associate member. Two other local governing prescribed authorities in SA (Maralinga Tjarutja and Yalata Community Council) are eligible to join and have been approached by the LGA.

Programme area: Participation in Local Government

Partnership Local Government/Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – Elections and Voting Project

This project seeks to produce material to support councils in developing and instituting their promotional, marketing or educational initiatives about Local Government, and to foster interest in nominating for councils amongst the Aboriginal public within their Local Government area. This partnership project began in March 2002 with funding contributions from the Commonwealth Government's Local Government Incentives Programme 2001–02 and the State Office of Local Government. Managed by the Local Government Association, the project reference group comprised representatives of LGA, OLG, State Electoral Office, DOSAA, ATSIC State Policy Office and the Aboriginal Policy Officers Network as well as consultation with a past Local Government Councillor. Local Government general elections in SA are to be held in May 2003 and the project is nearing completion.

*Programme area: Local and Regional Planning**Involvement in planning processes*

The Inter-Governmental Local Government/Aboriginal Network initiated discussions with ATSIC State Executive Committee on 20 November 2001 on opportunities for possible forward planning linkages between Local Government Councils and ATSIC Regional Councils. Section 94 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989* gives ATSIC Regional Councils the function to formulate, review and update regional plans and to assist, advise and cooperate with State and Local Government bodies in the implementation of the regional plan. Moreover, section 122 of the Local Government Act provides for Local Government councils to develop and adopt strategic management plans. With the support of the ATSIC State Executive Committee at the November meeting, the Inter-Governmental Network approached each of the three South Australian ATSIC Regional Councils to establish overarching dialogue.

Integrated Governance project

Throughout 2001 the LGA supported councils as they went about developing their strategic management plans as required under the *Local Government Act 1999*. The LGA held a strategic planning workshop involving council-elected members and senior staff on 20 and 21 September 2001, highlighting a broad range of issues and providing the opportunity for key State agencies to present and discuss core policy documents. The Department of State Aboriginal Affairs was invited to participate.

*Programme area: Native Title**Workshops for councils*

In November 2001 the Local Government Association of SA, in conjunction with the Australian Local Government Association, hosted

a series of ALGA Native Title Workshops for councils. Workshops comprised two modules and each module was well attended by councils. The ALGA, ATSIC and National Native Title Tribunal Guide for Local Government entitled *Working with Native Title* was used throughout the day.

Indigenous land use agreements

The District Council of Yorke Peninsula, its three adjacent councils and the Narrunga Nations Native Title Management Committee have taken a leading position in relation to negotiation of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) involving Local Government. The SA Government, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, the LGA and Commonwealth Legal Aid are all assisting the process, which is still in its early stages.

National NT Practitioner's Panel

The Local Government Association invited potential facilitators to undertake the Native Title course and seek listing on National Native Title Practitioner's Panel so as to have a range of people equipped with skills to be available for councils (that is, expand the resource base of the panel). A number of facilitators attended a half-day course in November 2001.

Tasmania

Department of Premier and Cabinet

The Tasmanian Government is well advanced on a programme to negotiate partnership agreements with individual and regional groupings of Local Government across the State. As part of the negotiation of some agreements, the State Government seeks to promote links between Local Government and the Aboriginal community when there is some real interest from the parties. The aim is to identify key issues that affect Aboriginal people in the Local Government

area and develop strategies to address these. Broadly, the topics covered include:

- strategies to improve the level of participation of Aboriginal people in Local Government
- promoting understanding of Aboriginal issues in the wider community
- sustaining the reconciliation process by encouraging public support and participation
- taking joint action to reduce social disadvantage in the Aboriginal community
- measures to enhance economic development and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people.

One example of a council re-examining how it relates to its Indigenous community is the Hobart City Council in developing its Aboriginal Strategy. This strategy is based on:

- improving the level of aboriginal participation in Local Government
- improving the level of understanding about Aboriginal community culture and heritage
- improving the level of Local Government services to the Aboriginal people
- economic and employment development
- management and protection of sites of Indigenous cultural significance.

Northern Territory

Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs

One of the problems faced in the remote communities of the Northern Territory is isolation and poor access to information. Councils also suffer from an 'image' problem, in that the bulk of the information circulating concentrates on problems and negative aspects of remote area Local Government.

The Northern Territory's Best Practice Programme began in 1997, funded by an early

grant from the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services, and has been ongoing. The objective of the programme was to overcome difficulties associated with remoteness and to increase the awareness of practices in other communities leading to improved Local Government service delivery.

The pressure to achieve effective delivery of services in rural and remote areas is increased by the continuing cost of failure to achieve necessary outcomes and the failure of strategies that achieve success in other places. The tyranny of distance, coupled with small population centres, provides challenges that must be continually re-addressed.

In the previous year a study into service delivery generally was completed by the then Department of Local Government. The primary conclusion of that study was that a new and more productive partnership between the Northern Territory Government and Local Government councils was needed. It was envisaged that the proposed partnership agreements would enunciate the roles and responsibilities of each party in the delivery of either a group or services or a specific service with outcomes being articulated and performance criteria clearly settled. This year a strategy emphasising the negotiated principles that would apply to specific partnership agreements, or memoranda of understanding, was developed to implement the proposal and a period of negotiation commenced.

Australian Capital Territory

Department of Urban Services

The ACT Government has established a working group of chief executives and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community representatives to develop a set of proposals to better coordinate and manage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service delivery and policy advice mechanisms across ACT government.

Investing in community leadership initiatives

In August 2001, the ACT Government established the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board. The board consists of five Aboriginal and five non-Aboriginal members.

The board provides advice to the Conservator of Flora and Fauna on the preparation of the draft plan of management for Namadgi National Park and on consent decisions made by the Conservator. During the year the board has focused on the preparation of a discussion paper for the preparation of a new plan of management for Namadgi National Park and on providing enhanced employment opportunities for Indigenous people.

In May 2002, the ACT Government hosted the inaugural Ngunnawal Gathering. From this has emerged a Ngunnawal Elders Council. This Elders Council will be the primary consultation mechanism for ACT Government on Ngunnawal-specific issues such as land and heritage issues in the ACT.

Programmes that deliver practical measures that support families, children and young people

The draft Territory Records Bill 2002 establishes a framework for agencies to manage and allow access to records. This includes records containing information that may allow people to establish links with their Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage. The Records Task Force of the Journey of Healing Network provided input into the development of the legislation.

A survey is under way to identify records in the custody of the ACT Government that may allow people to establish links with their Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage.

Employment initiatives

The Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs is coordinating a Structured Training and Employment Programme (STEP) and cadetship programme under its whole-of-government employment policy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Environment ACT – draft Indigenous employment strategy

The draft strategy was developed in January 2002 in response to the whole-of-government Indigenous Employment Framework. The draft strategy is being considered as a model for the Department of Urban Services. The strategy will provide opportunities for Indigenous employees, trainees and volunteers to work with Environment ACT.

The draft strategy aims to address the under-representation of Indigenous people within the Department of Urban Services and to fulfil commitments implicit in the COAG Communiqué on Reconciliation and an agreement between the Territory and ACT Native Title Claim Groups.

Community Renewal Programme

The Community Renewal Programme aims to assist local communities to define issues that are important to them, and to provide a vehicle for these communities to actively engage in the development and implementation of programmes to address these issues. This programme provides an important mechanism for responding to community issues and working with the local communities to develop local solutions.

During 2001–02 the programme funded a number of specific Indigenous-funded projects, and other projects that involved members of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities.

APPENDIX I

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The National Awards for Local Government (the Awards) were established in 1986 to foster and acknowledge innovation and continuous improvement in Local Government. The Awards are managed by the National Office of Local Government within the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services. The 2002 Awards were launched at the Local Government Managers, Australia (LGMA) National Congress in Sydney on 13 May 2002 and were presented at the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly in Alice Springs on 4 November 2002.

The Awards are funded by sponsorship from a number of Commonwealth Government agencies. In 2002, these sponsors were the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources: Business Entry Point, the Department of the Environment and Heritage: Environment Australia, the Department of Family and Community Services, the Department of Health and Ageing, and the Department of Transport and Regional Services.

The Awards identify and promote innovation and excellence in Local Government. They celebrate the collective contribution that all councils

continue to make to the health, vitality, prosperity and welfare of the communities they serve, while continuing to maintain the traditional responsibilities of Local Government. They also highlight the diverse role of Local Government in improving the economic, social and environmental outcomes for their communities. In 2002 the Awards were expanded to include excellence.

The 2002 Awards attracted 373 entries across 11 categories. This is an increase of 25 per cent over the number of entries received in 2001.

2002 Awards categories and sponsors were:

- Business and Regional Development – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services: Rural Transaction Centre
- Community Services – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services
- Engineering and Infrastructure, Planning and Urban Design – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Development: National Office of Local Government

- Environment: Natural Resource Management: Partnerships for Biodiversity Conservation – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage: Environment Australia
- Environment: Sustaining Local Communities – Local Agenda 21 – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage: Environment Australia
- Financial Management – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services: National Office of Local Government
- Health Services and Aged Care – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing
- Information Technology – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources: Business Entry Point
- Organisational Practices – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Development: National Office of Local Government
- Youth Services – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services
- a Special Award for Strengthening Indigenous Communities – sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services.

Judging of the 11 categories was undertaken by representatives from the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA), category sponsors and industry bodies

National judging for the 2002 Awards took place in Canberra on 18 and 19 September 2002. The National Judging Panel, which included an independent chair from the industry sector, an academic specialising in Local Government, representatives from ALGA, LGMA and the department, selected the national winners

following presentations from the category award winners.

Summaries of all entries for the 2002 National Awards for Local Government are included in the publication *Leading Practice in Local Government Guide Book 2002*. The guide book was circulated to all Local Government bodies in November 2002. It is available on the Internet at www.nolg.gov.au. Additional hard copies of the Guide Book may be ordered by calling 1800 065 113 or by emailing nolg@dotars.gov.au

National and rural winners were announced for the most innovative and excellent entries on 4 November 2002 at the 2002 Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly in Alice Springs. Two special Awards, one for outstanding achievement and one to celebrate the Year of the Outback were also presented.

National and special award winners 2002

Special Award for Outstanding Achievement

Whittlesea City Council, Vic

FoodSmart – Food Safety Plans Online

In winning the Information Technology Category for the past three years Whittlesea City Council has shown itself to be outstanding in this field.

In recognition of demonstrated sustained excellence and innovation in Information Technology Whittlesea City Council was awarded the inaugural Special Award for Outstanding Achievement.

In 2002 City of Whittlesea's FoodSmart: Food Safety Plans Online project saw the development of an online compliance software package for meeting Victorian legislation requirements. This particular project demonstrates how Local

Government as leading innovators can develop solutions that have far wider application than their immediate sphere of influence. In developing *FoodSmart* Whittlesea consulted widely and engaged relevant stakeholders from a number of organisations. The project achieved its objectives of delivering a solution that simplifies the legislative requirements for food businesses and assists Local Government in assessing food safety plans. It delivers efficiency gains and lowers costs, benefiting local food businesses as well as Local Government. The benefits of the project have already been shared across the State of Victoria and these benefits have the potential to spill into other states.

Contact Mr Neill Hocking
Telephone (03) 9217-2335
Fax (03) 9217-2111
Email nfh@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

National Award for Innovation

Shire of Gingin, WA

Perth North Region Emergency Service Directory and Avon Emergency Services Directory

The Perth North Region Emergency Service Directory and Avon Emergency Service Directory project provided an excellent example of innovative practice in the partnering of large and small councils to achieve a shared objective of significance to all the communities involved. The sharing of resources and costs permitted the undertaking of a large project that councils, particularly the smaller councils, individually might not have been able to achieve. The collaboration of the seven Local Government Authorities, four State government agencies and St John's Ambulance was a significant coordination exercise and partnership for Local Government. The involvement of district volunteers in the data collection, mapping and verification ensured the shared ownership in the product and its subsequent veracity. This across-

region approach to emergency service delivery engenders the security of knowing, during a major regional emergency, that all units of all services are working from a single, verified data source. The process is readily and simply transferable to a huge number of areas across Australia and internationally.

Contact Mrs Wendy Harris
Telephone (08) 9575-2211
Fax (08) 9575-2121
Email wharris@ginginwa.iinet.net.au

National Rural Award for Innovation

Kingaroy Shire Council, Old

Kingaroy and South Burnett Medical Workforce Strategy

Of major concern to rural communities and health authorities alike is hospital closures and the recruitment and retention of health care professionals. The Kingaroy & South Burnett Medical Workforce Strategy is the Kingaroy Shire Council's response to shortages of general practitioners and specialists, and also declining hospital services. These difficulties, experienced in rural communities all over Australia, have been addressed by the Kingaroy Shire Council through the development of a comprehensive and successful series of measures to overcome these problems. This project is innovative in its most holistic approach to overcoming general practice and specialist shortages and in its development in collaboration with a wide range of key stakeholders including the community. The planning model has been meticulously documented with the whole model being easily transferable to other Local Government bodies and rural health services.

Contact Mr Ron Turner
Telephone (07) 4162-6204
Fax (07) 4162-4806
Email Rturner@kingaroy.qld.gov.au

National Award for Excellence

Tumut Shire Council, NSW

Development of a paper mill in Tumut Shire

Tumut Shire Council was proactive in initiating and facilitating a significant paper mill development in its Shire. Tumut's consultation strategy was of particular excellence, and their community consultation process proved vital for the mill's acceptance. Council played a key role in ensuring effective community consultation: firstly, to raise the initiative with the community and confirm its interest in attracting a pulp mill; and secondly, in ensuring that such a development would be of a high standard. In a series of community workshops, and through the development of significant partnerships with government and industry, council was able to assist the development of local value adding to the forest industry sector. Council participated with the Commonwealth and State Governments in funding roads and water infrastructure to support the development. The project has also assisted in the arrest of population decline in the Shire, with recent reports showing a 2.5 per cent increase in the Shire's population.

Contact Mr Chris Adams
Telephone (02) 6947-0519
Fax (02) 6947-3999
Email cadams@tumut.nsw.gov.au

National Rural Award for Excellence

Town of Port Hedland, WA

Courthouse Arts Centre and Gallery

The Town of Port Hedland's Courthouse Art Centre and Gallery initiative aimed to positively promote Indigenous culture, foster positive cultural exchanges, and find creative solutions to Indigenous unemployment. The initiative is an excellent example of a productive partnership between the Town of Port Hedland Council, the

Hedland Arts Council and the Pilbara Arts Craft and Design Aboriginal Corporation (PACDAC). It is also an excellent example of practical reconciliation and has produced excellent outcomes by increasing indigenous employment and raising the esteem of a large percentage in the community through pride in their artists and crafts people. The project has contributed to the towns' economic development, and with growing interest and support from the local business sector it has the potential to continue to increase the economic and social opportunities for the people of Port Hedland.

Contact Ms Michelle Mackenzie
Telephone (08) 9158-9338
Fax (08) 9173-1766
Email mackenziem@porthedland.wa.gov.au

Special Award to celebrate the Year of the Outback

Cox Peninsula Community Government Council, NT

Electronic water card delivery system

One project, the Cox Peninsular Community Government Council – Electronic Water Card Delivery System, which won a commendation in the Engineering, Infrastructure, Planning and Urban Design Category, attracted the attention of the national judging panel. The system is a prime example of how a public-private partnership can produce an innovative solution regardless of the issue or the size or location of the community. The system has wide application and is indicative of the resourcefulness and ingenuity that are the hallmarks of communities in the Australian outback.

In this the Year of the Outback and particularly at a time when the Australian countryside is being ravaged by drought, the tenacity of a small rural council in looking for an innovative solution to water distribution in their harsh environment

was thought worthy of special mention and of the presentation of a Special Award to celebrate the Year of the Outback.

Contact Mr Graham Watson
Telephone (08) 9878-5185
Fax (08) 9878-5100
Email coxcouncil@bigpond.com

Category award winners 2002

Business and regional development

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services: Rural Transaction Centre Programme

This award recognises Local Government's key role in encouraging business and regional development either by an individual council or by a regional group of councils.

In fostering regional business development, the Rural Transaction Centre Programme of the Department of Transport and Regional Services, is proud to recognise innovative and excellent partnerships including those with private enterprise, education and training providers, community groups and other spheres of government. Examples include:

- improving access to services by smaller communities
- improving business infrastructure
- assisting business ventures
- facilitating transport
- improving export opportunities
- tourism.

Category winner

City of Playford, SA

Best practice economic development model for an industrial council

The City of Playford has developed a best practice economic development model to directly contribute to long-term and sustainable economic development in the region. The model arises from the development of new markets and export opportunities with over 200 companies participating in the project.

Contact Mr Rodin Genoff
Telephone (08) 8254-0229
Fax (08) 8254-1190
Email rgenoff@playford.sa.gov.au

Rural winner

Tumut Shire Council, NSW

Development of a paper mill in Tumut Shire

Tumut Shire Council worked with Commonwealth and State agencies to attract Visy Industries to the Shire to construct a world's best practice paper mill. Council convened community workshops since 1996, followed by community workshops conducted by Visy in 1998 and 1999. The result was that when the construction of the mill began in late 1999 there was only one protester. The mill has brought considerable economic activity and prosperity to the Shire, with 1080 jobs expected to be created when the mill is fully operational. The positive approach taken by Council and the community toward this major economic opportunity can be taken as a positive example for other councils to work with their communities to achieve community benefits.

Contact Mr Chris Adams
Telephone (02) 6947-0519
Fax (02) 6947-3999
Email cadams@tumul.nsw.gov.au

Community services

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services

This Award recognises the ongoing role of Local Government in providing and improving community services. The Award focuses particularly on the contribution of Local Government to strengthening families and communities through building community capacity, developing local solutions to local problems and addressing community services issues using innovative government, community and business partnerships.

The following list of community services that fall within this award is intended to be indicative rather than comprehensive.

Community services for the purpose of this Award may include:

- arts and culture
- child care
- emergency services
- providing for people with a non-English speaking background
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Council projects, for example increasing participation in elections, representation in Local Government authorities, disseminating native title information, networking, brokering
- promoting community services, citizenship, cultural and educational opportunities
- improving communication and cooperation between government, business, community and volunteer organisations, especially in meeting the challenges addressing the problems of marginalised groups in society
- initiating community-based ventures that enhance social connections and networks within local communities.

Category winner

Melbourne City Council, Vic

Relocated Project

The project's objectives were to document the demolition and redevelopment of the Kensington public housing estate, to celebrate the contribution made by tenants to the local community, and to acknowledge the impact of the redevelopment on the community. The project has shown the benefits of Local Government making long-term investment in cultural development projects. The longer time frame of the project necessitated planning across financial years and allowing flexibility of outcome; however, this investment, once made, has positive impacts for the communities involved as it enabled a project to work to a community's timeline.

Contact Ms Jane Crawley
Telephone (03) 9658-9935
Fax (03) 9658-8436
Email jan cra@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Rural winner

Shire of Gingin, WA

Perth North Region Emergency Service Directory and Avon Emergency Services Directory

The Perth North Region and Avon Emergency Service Directories (ESD) are the result of a successful joint venture between seven Local Government authorities, four State Government departments and a non-government organisation to produce an accurate and reliable mapping product for use in emergency service delivery. The ESD contains a wealth of area-specific information unavailable in other traditional street directories or road maps. The objective of this project was to improve capabilities for dealing with all emergencies, thus reducing vulnerability (particularly in rural areas), improving response

times and reducing stress to both the deliverer and recipient.

Contact Mrs Wendy Harris
Telephone (08) 9575-2211
Fax (08) 9575-2121
Email wharris@ginginwa.iinet.net.au

Engineering, infrastructure, planning and urban design

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services: National Office of Local Government

This Award recognises innovation and excellence in the fields of engineering, infrastructure, planning and urban design, particularly those demonstrating savings in financial or environmental costs, gains in energy efficiency, improved service delivery, improved asset management or overall ecologically sustainable development.

Some examples of relevant projects could include:

Engineering

- civil engineering – for example, roads, bridges, drainage systems
- mechanical and other forms of industrial engineering – electrical, plant and machinery

Infrastructure

- water and waste water
- sewerage
- power
- transport and traffic – including planning traffic flow and pedestrian access

Planning

- community consultation
- heritage conservation
- rural and urban land use plans
- community planning

- place-based planning
- LIS/GIS planning projects
- natural resource management
- integrated transport and land use planning
- strategic land use planning

Urban design

- performance based planning codes
- design of public space
- community consultation on urban design
- providing green space
- medium density housing.

Category winner

Hervey Bay City Council, Qld

Access Hervey Bay

Access Hervey Bay aimed to improve physical access to the area, access to communications/information technology, make accessibility a marketable commodity, and stimulate private sector investment and community involvement in the area. These objectives translated into specific projects that included transforming a disused rail corridor into a safe, environmentally friendly pedestrian/cycle path; laying fibre optic cabling along the corridor for future communication needs; improving access to the beach for people with a disability; and modifying roads, footpaths, shopfronts and public amenities to eliminate barriers. Community awareness of disability issues increased and the local economy benefited from growth in private sector investment and tourism. A cooperative whole-of-Council approach effectively tapped into expertise across departments and maximised limited resources.

Contact Mr Doug Mackay
Telephone (07) 4197-4301
Fax (07) 4197-4455
Email dougm@herveybay.qld.gov.au

Environment – natural resource management: partnerships for biodiversity conservation

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage: Environment Australia

This Award recognises innovation and excellence in the protection and management of Australia's biodiversity particularly where initiatives demonstrate:

- partnerships between Local Government, community and regional groups to conserve biodiversity
- the integration of regional biodiversity objectives into local planning schemes.

Category Winner

Rockhampton City Council, Qld

Wombat Research Facility

The Wombat Research Centre at Rockhampton Botanic Gardens and Zoo is making a major contribution to the recovery of the endangered Northern Hairy-Nosed wombat. This wombat is Queensland's most endangered mammal, with only 110 surviving in one last population. Research at the centre is currently focused on the closely related but more numerous Southern Hairy-Nosed Wombats. In just 18 months, two of the three major components of the Wombat Research Centre have been completed and 17 Southern Hairy-Nosed wombats have arrived from the wild in South Australia. The centre was built by a Work for the Dole team and will become a valuable educational facility and will encourage a boost for tourism in Central Queensland.

Contact Mr Tom Wyatt
Telephone (07) 4922-1654
Fax (07) 4922-8704
Email wyattt@rcc.qld.gov.au

Environment – sustaining local communities: Local Agenda 21

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage: Environment Australia

The Commonwealth Government already has programmes in place that encourages individuals and local communities to protect and preserve their environment. Now Local Governments and the wider communities they represent are being encouraged to become the lead agencies in achieving sustainable development by integrating environmental, economic and social goals. The Local Agenda 21 (LA21) Award recognises the efforts of Local Governments, regional organisations and communities in the promotion and implementation of ecologically sustainable development at the local level through Local Agenda 21 or other integrated planning frameworks.

Category winner

City of Swan, WA

Integrated planning framework

The City of Swan integrated planning framework was developed to align the city's external community planning needs with its own internal corporate planning processes and to ensure that the city's planning, implementation and performance measurement systems operate within an integrated framework based on sustainability. This approach involves community, private sector and government partnerships and a shift in organisational approach from the delivery of functional outputs to the achievement of sustainable community outcomes.

Contact Mr Martin Richardson
Telephone (08) 9267-9286
Fax (08) 9267-9444
Email mrichardson@swan.wa.gov.au

Rural winner*Derwent Valley Council, Tas**Lachlan River Community*

Lachlan River Community Holdings Pty Ltd is the result of a joint venture partnership between the Derwent Valley Council and private sector business development company Isle Property Group Pty Ltd. Lachlan River Community is being created as a sustainable complex community of business, cultural and community activity at the site of an abandoned State Government Hospital. The site has over 100 buildings, some of which date back to the early years of Tasmania's colonial settlement. A mix of activities being undertaken for regional development are best illustrated through the EARTH strategy, where E = education, A = age care, R = rural projects, T = technology and H = heritage and tourism. Lachlan River Community is a catalyst for economic and social wellbeing for the Derwent Valley and New Norfolk.

Contact Mr Stephen Mackey
Telephone (03) 6261-8512
Fax (03) 6261-8546
Email dvcouncil@dvc.tas.gov.au

Financial management

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services: National Office of Local Government

This Award recognises and acknowledges the delivery of a high standard of financial management and accountability, with an emphasis on continuous improvement.

In addition, the Award will also highlight the benefits councils are achieving on behalf of their communities through the delivery and maintenance of these standards through:

- the adoption of current and contemporary accounting policies and procedures
- the effective management of council finances
- public accountability and transparency
- community and customer focus.

Joint category winner*City of Gosnells, WA**Resource Allocation Model*

The Resource Allocation Model (RAM) project successfully linked the annual budget and the goals and strategies of the City of Gosnells strategic plan, enabling the city to evaluate and rank unlike expenditure, and enabling the city's scarce resources to be allocated on a non-political equitable basis. The RAM process is unique in Australian Local Government. Use of the cost-benefit analysis tools applied through the RAM has enabled Council to demonstrate the most efficient and effective use of its finite resources as applied to competing priorities. It has gained widespread acceptance across key stakeholders as a fair and equitable method of allocating resources to fund the city's strategic plan for the local community.

Contact Mr Ron Bouwer
Telephone (08) 9391-3250
Fax (08) 9398-2922
Email rbouwer@gosnells.wa.gov.au

Joint category winner*City of Onkaparinga, SA**Financial directions*

To help ensure the long-term financial viability of Council, and to make prioritisation of proposed project and capital works publicly transparent, the City of Onkaparinga conceived and developed a financial directions framework and process that incorporates a corporate financial model and Council-endorsed resource allocation strategies and criteria. The framework

is a recording and decision-making tool that is applicable to all councils because they share common financial parameters and categories of projects and capital works. The framework provides for significant corporate knowledge capture through documented, public disclosure of resource allocation strategies together with the ranking scores for individual projects and capital works. The ranking scores are based upon a consistent and endorsed set of criteria independent of the scorer.

Contact Ms Debra Just
Telephone (08) 8384-0649
Fax (08) 8384-0713
Email debjus@onkapinga.sa.gov.au

Health services and aged care

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing

This Award recognises the role of Local Government in understanding and addressing local health and aged care priorities. Innovation and excellence coupled with proactivity are the cornerstones of this Award. Councils that can demonstrate communities working in partnership with health professionals and local leaders to identify and address local health issues are encouraged to apply.

The Rural Award component of this Award will focus on the work of rural and remote communities in this field and will place some emphasis on the ways that small rural communities are finding solutions to local primary health care inadequacies.

Examples of relevant projects include:

- rural health, including the delivery of new or extended primary health services needed in small rural communities, including illness and injury prevention; palliative care; women's health; children's services; community nursing;

rural health promotion; mental health; podiatry and immunisation

- provision of primary health care – both general and public health
- health promotion.

Category winner

City of Melville, WA

Who said it's easy being a guy? – a self-help resource for young men

Who said it's easy being a guy? is a publication for young men by young men and is relevant to the majority of young males in Australia. The publication arose from community feedback suggesting the need for a health resource for young males. Using direct quotes and a number of 'true life' stories to illustrate issues relating to young men, the booklet provides the target audience with a range of helpful contact points so they can seek further advice and assistance. The book has proved popular with high schools and community organisations throughout Australia, with over 9,000 copies being circulated. The project has helped raise awareness of young men's issues within the community and within the State Government, particularly in the community and education arenas.

Contact Ms Janet Armarego
Telephone (08) 9364-0280
Fax (08) 9316-2421
Email jarmarego@melville.wa.gov.au

Rural winner

Kingaroy Shire Council, Old

Kingaroy and South Burnett Medical Workforce Strategy

The Kingaroy and South Burnett Medical Workforce Strategy has tackled the issue of maintaining medical services in rural areas. The result is a proactive approach by the private and public health services to meeting the long-term

needs of the community. Strategies already introduced have met the immediate needs for general practitioners in the community; the medium-term strategies seek to restore private hospital facilities and surgical and specialist services to the region; and the long-term strategies are focused on creating an interest from rural students in pursuing careers in the medical and allied health fields on the premise that they will be more likely to return to practice in the bush.

Contact Mr Ron Turner
Telephone (07) 4162-6204
Fax (07) 4162-4806
Email Rturner@kingaroy.qld.gov.au

Information technology

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources: Business Entry Point

This Award recognises innovative uses of Information Technology particularly through services delivered online, which can provide substantial benefits to communities including important community sectors such as local small businesses. Initiatives that can be easily adopted by other councils are particularly encouraged.

Examples of information technology projects include:

- use of the Internet for transactions
- partnerships with universities, business and the community to develop information technology strategies
- application of databases
- information networks
- multimedia applications.

Category winner

Whittlesea City Council, Vic

FoodSmart – Food Safety Plans Online

FoodSmart offers a free, simple, online alternative for food businesses to produce a custom-made food safety plan. Food proprietors have demonstrated overwhelming approval for FoodSmart. Although the programme is not yet officially launched, over 2800 businesses have registered with FoodSmart, and 1112 food safety plans have been approved by councils. Industry estimates indicate that FoodSmart will produce cost savings and community benefit of millions of dollars. Already, the development cost has been recouped around tenfold. The national application of FoodSmart has been recognised. FoodSmart presents a stunning example of a useful and practical Internet application, providing business, government and communities with direct and immediate benefit.

Contact Mr Neill Hocking
Telephone (03) 9217-2335
Fax (03) 9217-2111
Email nfh@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

Rural winner

Crows Nest Shire Council, Qld

Smart Community Strategy

Crows Nest Shire's Smart Community Strategy empowers local communities through the uptake of information and communication technology (ICT) by providing:

- a community portal promoting the Shire's lifestyle and opportunity
- Internet services via affordable, high-speed and reliable access
- lifelong learning through training in the home, libraries, retirement villages and schools
- resources, through computer package installation and connection

- infrastructure, by conducting audits, liaising with telcos and promoting local solutions
- an interactive community, through adopting friendly planning development policies, simplifying Internet access and creating communities of interest.

Achievements to date have included 195 000 hits to CNnet in the past 12 months, an additional 230 homes connected to the Internet through CNnet, 137 homes supplied with computers in the past six months, training provided to 118 residents, and a high level of public participation in all components of the strategy. Using dedicated Council staff and innovative community members to implement the programme has meant results have been achieved at very little cost to ratepayers. Potential exists to use the Smart Community Strategy in other communities and negotiations are being undertaken with several bodies to provide these services on a commercial basis.

Contact Ms Bronwyn Cairns
Telephone (07) 4698-1155
Fax (07) 4698-1717
Email bronywn@crowsnestshire.qld.gov.au

Organisational practices

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services: National Office of Local Government

This Award recognises innovative or excellent organisational or business practices aimed at the continuous improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of Local Government.

Examples of organisational practices include:

- improving organisational management
- improving staff performance
- benchmarking initiatives
- coordinating the processing of development applications

- improving customer or client service
- improving industrial relations practices
- occupational health and safety
- revising council structures
- rationalisation of Local Government functions
- supply management.

Category winner

Baulkham Hills Shire Council, NSW

Event Management Guide

The *Event Management Guide* is a complete guide to planning and implementing a safe and successful community event. The guide was originally written to standardise the information sent to Council's community events management committees and to facilitate the smooth and consistent flow of required details back to Council's Civic Events Department. The guide has now expanded to a document that explains best practice tips and procedures for event management. This has resulted in all community events management volunteers being better equipped to plan and implement their events on time and within budget. Information in the guide is currently distributed via hard copy and on CD-ROM.

Contact Mr Don Kemble
Telephone (02) 9843-0421
Fax (02) 9843-0118
Email dkemble@bhsc.nsw.gov.au

Joint rural winner

Pilbara Regional Council, WA

Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management Plan

The Pilbara Regional Council – Human Resource Managers Group have developed an Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management Plan. This plan aims to broaden the diversity and cultural understanding of workforces in Local

Government in the Pilbara. The Equal Opportunity and Diversity Plan has enabled Local Government in the Pilbara to correctly identify training requirements for staff and councillors to raise their understanding of the different aspects of cultural values and beliefs present in their work environment. The plan can also be used as a model in other States and Territories by organisations wanting to diversify their workforce. The plan has already been obtained by the Western Australian Local Government Association and is the recommended model/ benchmark in Western Australia.

Contact Mrs Amanda Hutchins
Telephone (08) 9186-8510
Fax (08) 9143-1388
Email prc@roebourne.wa.gov.au

Joint rural winner

Shire of Kellerberrin, WA

The Joint Shire Agreement

Kellerberrin Shire Council and the Tammin Shire Council have developed a partnership to improve services, cut costs and show a level of cooperation to provide a viable alternative to amalgamation. It became obvious that a number of services that both councils offered, or similar tasks that were performed individually, could be examined for possible greater resource sharing. So began what is now known as the Joint Shire Agreement. This agreement eliminated duplication of services and introduced greater employee specialisation. Both councils have benefited considerably. Savings have been made through the reduction of administration overlap and waste, and through a reduction in administration staff. What makes the Joint Shire Agreement so unique and innovative is that there is only one management team employed to manage both shires.

Contact Mr Stuart Taylor
Telephone (08) 9045-4006
Fax (08) 9045-4437
Email shirekel@agn.net.au

Youth services

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services

This award acknowledges innovation and excellence in the provision of youth services and amenities with an emphasis on the degree to which young people are actively engaged in their communities and encouraged to participate in policy decision-making that affects them.

The award showcases innovations and excellence that benefits young Australians where they live, study, work and play. It also highlights projects that help young people participate actively in their communities and in the democratic institutions that service those communities as respected young citizens.

Category winner

City of Onkaparinga, SA

The City of Onkaparinga Youth Development Model

In 1997 the City of Onkaparinga decided to define its role in relation to youth issues and to provide a guide for the Council's work in the area of youth development. The result is the Onkaparinga Youth Development Model. The primary aims of the model are to develop community dialogue and participation and to encourage the development of integrated services. Based on a strong policy framework and coherent, creative strategies, the model has achieved the outcome of increased capacity for enterprise in local young people.

Contact Mr John Davis
Telephone (08) 8384-0762
Fax (08) 8384-0797
Email johdav@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

Rural winner

Alexandrina Council, SA

GoolwaSkill

The objectives of the GoolwaSkill programme are to involve older and younger members of the community in common and useful endeavours through skill and knowledge sharing. This improves social cohesion and understanding, and encourages mutual respect and employment within the community. Youth are encouraged to be the engine that drives the programme.

To complement and sustain the infrastructure of the programme, local businesses, community groups and volunteers are encouraged to provide support through sharing time, expertise and materials. Older residents are encouraged to participate in the GoolwaSkill programme and remain respected, healthy, active citizens within their community.

Contact Mrs Heather Grant
Telephone (08) 8554-2640
Fax (08) 8555-3603
Email alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

Special Award for Strengthening Indigenous Communities

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services

The Special Award for Strengthening Indigenous Communities aims to highlight initiatives by Local Government and Community Councils that are demonstrating innovation and/or excellence in their approach to increasing opportunities for engagement and participation by Indigenous people in the affairs of the local community. It will also aim to highlight improving community governance and service delivery arrangements for Indigenous people. This may be demonstrated by, but not be limited to, councils who are:

- engaging with local leaders on a regular basis about improving governance and service delivery arrangements with Indigenous people
- investing in community leadership initiatives
- partnering with Indigenous communities and organisations to build capacity and strength to encourage self-reliance and greater social and economic participation
- implementing a significant development through increased participation by Indigenous people in the community.

Category and rural winner

Town of Port Hedland, WA

Courthouse Arts Centre and Gallery

The project's objective was to create a sustainable partnership between the Town of Port Hedland and the Pilbara Arts Craft and Design Aboriginal Corporation (PACDAC) that would positively promote Indigenous culture, foster positive cultural exchanges and find creative solutions to Indigenous unemployment. The Town of Port Hedland and PACDAC jointly purchased the old Courthouse and established the Courthouse Arts Centre and Gallery. The Centre provides artists studios, a community workshop space, a retail outlet and a Gallery/exhibition space. PACDAC and Council staff work at the Centre. The Centre has a positive cultural impact on the community, providing a place to meet Aboriginal artists and to learn about local culture. The Courthouse provides an example of positive collaboration between Local Government and an Indigenous organisation. It has increased the engagement and participation of Indigenous people in community life, and is an example of practical reconciliation.

Contact Ms Michelle Mackenzie
Telephone (08) 9158-9338
Fax (08) 9173-1766
Email mackenziem@porthedland.wa.gov.au

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ACRONYMS AND INITIALISMS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACLG	Australian Classification of Local Government
CGC	Commonwealth Grants Commission
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
DOTARS	Department of Transport and Regional Services
GST	goods and services tax
LGMA	Local Government Managers Australia
LOGJOG	Local Government Joint Officers Group
POG	Planning Officials Group
SPP	Specific Purpose Payment

GLOSSARY

the Act

For the purposes of this National Report, the Act refers to the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

balanced budget approach

A method of general purpose grant assessment whereby gross expenditure needs and revenue capacity for each Council are assessed with the difference between the expenditure and revenue assessments being the equalisation need.

benchmarking

The practice of measuring an organisation's performance and practices in key areas and comparing them with other organisations, to find ways of achieving better results.

best practice

The achievement of best practice refers to the way in which leading-edge organisations are able to manage and organise their operations to deliver world-class standards of performance in areas such as cost, quality and timeliness.

capping

Capping, for the purposes of this report, is the stabilising of component factors to bring a Council's grant to within a set range of that Council's grant in a previous year.

Commonwealth Grants Commission

A statutory authority established by the *Commonwealth Grants Commission Act 1973* whose main task is to recommend to the Commonwealth Government, for consideration by the Ministerial Council for Commonwealth-State Financial Relations, the shares for each State and Territory of the pool of general revenue and funding grants made available by the Commonwealth.

Competition Principles Agreement (CPA)

The agreement between the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments that establishes agreed principles on structural reform of public monopolies, competitive neutrality between public and private sectors, prices oversight of utilities and other corporations with significant monopoly power, a regime to provide access to essential facilities and a programme of review of legislation restricting competition. It is one of three intergovernmental agreements (the other two are *Conduct Code Agreement* and *Agreement to Implement the National Competition Policy and Related Reforms*) negotiated under the Council of Australian Governments' forum of April 1995.

competitive neutrality

Competitive neutrality seeks to ensure that competition between public and private businesses happens on a fair basis by making sure they face the same taxes, incentives and regulations.

direct assessment approach

A method of grant assessment whereby a positive or negative assessment of expenditure need or revenue capacity is made for each Council relative to a standard assessment. The sum of positive and negative assessments is the equalisation need.

disability factor

A measure of underlying influences that would lead a Council to spend more (or less) per capita than the State average, expressed as an adjusting ratio of the State average.

effort neutral or neutrality

The assessment of a financial assistance grant is effort neutral when it neither rewards nor penalises a Council where expenditure or revenue-raising patterns vary from the State average because of policy differences, differences in efficiency or levels of self help.

escalation factor

The ratio by which the level of financial assistance grant nationally is adjusted, and which the Treasurer determines according to the requirements of the Act.

estimated factor

This is the escalation factor, as determined by the Treasurer at the start of the financial year, to determine the levels of grant payments, according to the requirements of the Act which will be paid to Local Government for that year.

final factor

This is the escalation factor, as determined by the Treasurer at the end of the financial year, according to the requirements of the Act. It will determine the final entitlement payable for Local

Government financial assistance for that year. Determination of the final factor will (usually) require adjustments to be made to the actual payments, which were based on the estimated factor at the beginning of the year.

financial assistance grants

These are 'untied' funds (not tied to a specific purpose) the Commonwealth grants to Local Governments under the Act through the State governments.

Financial assistance grants to Local Government are supplied to States as 'tied' (for a specific purpose) but once distributed to Local Government are 'untied'. They comprise two components: 'general purpose' and 'local roads'.

full horizontal equalisation

Distribution of general purpose grants to Local Government, with the objective of ensuring each Council is able to function, by reasonable effort, at a standard not lower than the average standard in the State and takes account of differences in expenditure required in performing its functions and in the capacity to raise revenue (s6.3(a) and (b) *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*).

general purpose grant

This is one of two components (the local roads grant being the other) of the financial assistance grants to Local Government. The objective is to strengthen Local Government by addressing the vertical fiscal imbalance caused by Local Government's narrow tax base. General purpose grants promote equity between Councils and certainty of funding. They are distributed between States on a per capita basis and within States on a horizontal equalisation basis in accordance with the National Principles.

GFS net worth

GFS net worth reflects the contribution of governments to the wealth of Australia, being a summary of the value of assets, shares and other contributed capital less liabilities.

inclusion approach

The inclusion, in calculating a Council's general purpose grant, of all assessed expenditure and grants, including that related to Commonwealth and State specific purpose funding.

isolation allowance

Isolation allowance is calculated using a regression analysis model based on the additional costs of isolation and distances from capital cities. An additional component to the isolation allowance is included which specifically recognises the additional industrial relations obligations of Councils in western New South Wales.

Local Government Grants Commissions (LGGC)

In each State and the Northern Territory, Local Government Grants Commissions have been established under State and Territory law/legislation. Their primary role is to make recommendations to the State or Territory minister on distributing available financial assistance grants to Councils in that State or Territory.

local roads grant

This is one of two components (the other being the general purpose grant) of the financial assistance grant to Local Government. It was formerly provided as a tied grant and became 'untied' from 1 July 1991. It continues to be identified and distributed according to the former tied grant arrangements. It is distributed between States on the basis of historical shares and within States on the basis of road expenditure needs.

minimum grant entitlement

Every Council is entitled to receive a minimum grant which is not less than the amount it would receive if 30 per cent of the available general purpose grant for that State were distributed on a per capita basis.

national competition policy (NCP)

A series of reforms to encourage competition and discourage anti-competitive behaviour, set out in three intergovernmental agreements (the *Competition Principles Agreement*, the *Conduct Code Agreement* and *Agreement to Implement the Competition Policy and Related Reforms*), which emanated from the *Report of the Independent National Competition Policy Review Committee* (Hilmer Report).

negative allowances

Allowances which equalise the financial capacity of 'advantaged' Councils to that of the average level for that State, by accordingly reducing the level of the financial assistance grant. Councils assessed as being 'advantaged' may, for example, enjoy high values per property.

Operational subsidy

Grant provided to Councils that do not have access to significant other revenue such as that from rates.

positive allowances

Allowances which equalise the financial capacity of 'disadvantaged' Councils to that of the average level for that State, by accordingly increasing the level of the financial assistance grant. Councils assessed as being 'disadvantaged' may, for example, suffer low values per property.

public trading enterprise (PTE)

Public trading enterprises are resident public enterprises, such as Telstra or Australia Post, mainly engaged in producing goods and services for sale in the market place at prices which aim to recover most of the costs involved.

Rate capacity

A measure of a Council's capacity to raise revenue from rateable property, having regard to activities on that property, such as agriculture or mining.

Rate pegging

Action by State governments to limit any variation in rates levied by Councils, usually by ceiling or allowable limit on the percentage increase from year to year.

revenue allowances

Revenue allowances compensate Councils for their relative lack of revenue-raising capacity. Property values are the basis for assessing revenue-raising capacity because rates, based on property values, are the principal source of Councils' income. Property values, to some extent, are an indicator of the relative economic wealth of local areas.

specific purpose grant

Payments made by Commonwealth or State or Territory governments to a Council for a specific purpose. Such grants usually require a Council to meet certain conditional arrangements.

standardised revenue and expenditure

The assessed (as distinct from actual) revenue and expenditure for each Council, determined by its Local Government Grants Commission as required for horizontal equalisation purposes, which takes into account each Council's expenditure needs, revenue-raising capacity and disabilities.

structural reform

A change to the external relationships between Councils including boundary changes and amalgamation of Councils, cooperative service provision, major resource sharing initiatives and joint service delivery.

Weightings

Reflect the significance of the measure in terms of the expected additional cost. The weightings have generally been determined by establishing a factor for the maximum disability based on a sample of Councils or through discussion with appropriate organisations

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