


# **Risky businesses**

**Presentation to Statewide Mutual Risk Management  
Conference - 22 August 2024**

# ONE VOICE FOR COUNCILS

**Our purpose** is to represent, empower and advocate on behalf of the local government sector in NSW to ensure member councils can drive positive outcomes for local communities.



**COLLABORATIVE  
BY NATURE**

We will value all opinions



**INTEGRITY IN  
ACTIONS**

We are honest, ethical, and reliable  
in all our actions



**LOCALLY  
LED**

Local community focus



**SUSTAINABLE  
DECISIONS**

We make decisions for the now  
and into the future

# LGNSW Role and Function

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the **peak body** representing New South Wales local councils and associate members, including county councils, joint organisations, and regional organisations of councils.

**Our role** is to support, promote, advocate for, and represent the local government sector so our members are in the best possible position to serve our NSW communities.

## **We do this by:**

- Providing policy advice, management support and grants to members
- Empowering members to deliver quality services to meet the needs of their local community
- Providing effective, responsive, and accountable leadership on policy issues
- Enhancing community awareness and perception of local government
- Shaping the industrial environment in which the sector operates.

# ONE VOICE FOR COUNCILS



Local government in NSW employs about **55,000 people**



Local government in NSW looks after more than **\$198 billion of community assets**



Local government in NSW spends more than **\$2.3 billion each year** on caring for the environment, including recycling and waste management, stormwater management and preserving and protecting native flora and fauna



NSW has more than **350 council-run libraries** that attract tens of millions of visits each year, and more than **400 public swimming and ocean pools**



Local government in NSW is responsible for about **90% of the State's roads and bridges**



NSW councils manage an estimated **4 million tonnes of waste each year**



NSW councils own and manage more than **600 museums, galleries, theatres and art centres**

# Policy



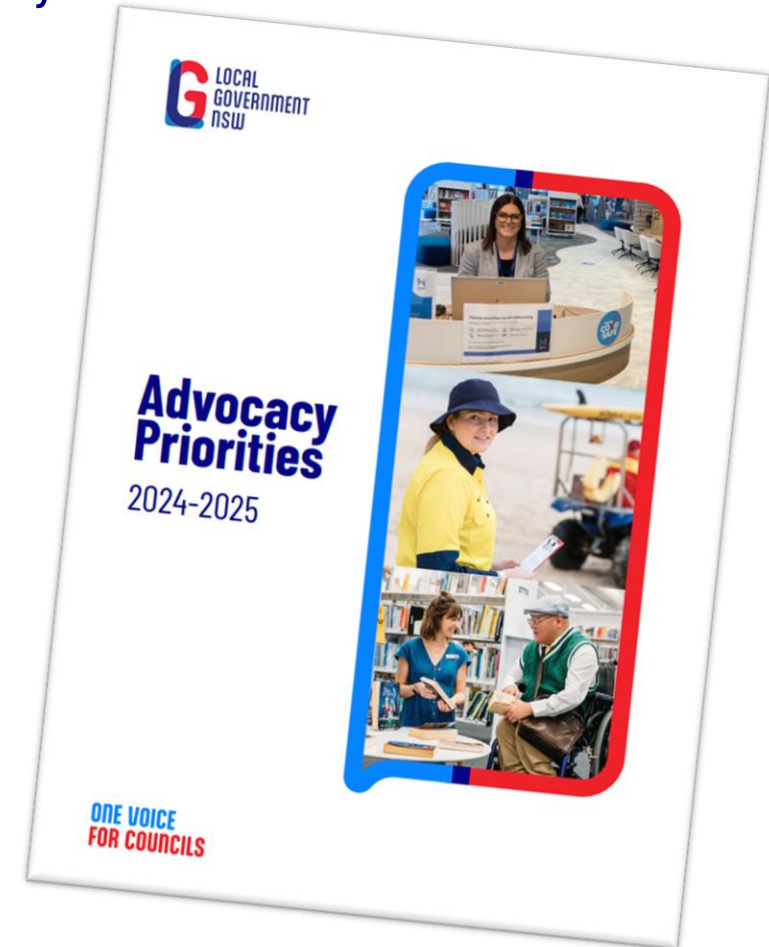
The LGNSW Policy Platform is updated each year following the Conference and consolidates the various policies and positions of member councils.



# Advocacy

**Priorities** are informed by Conference resolutions and set by the LGNSW Board annually. For 2024, LGNSW's key priorities are grouped under 7 priority areas:

- Financial Sustainability
- Planning and Housing
- Roads and Infrastructure
- Resilience to Natural Disasters
- Environment and The Circular Economy
- Caring and Liveable Communities
- Skills and Labour Shortages



# LGNSW Strategic Plan 2024-2026



## **ECONOMIC**

Local government must have control of its revenue raising and investment decisions and be fairly funded by the Commonwealth and State/NSW Governments to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities.

Local government promotes local and regional economic development and employment growth.

## **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Local government is responsible and accountable to members and their communities.

Local government is recognised as a responsible and place-based employer.

Local Government reduces and mitigates the risk of climate change for the communities we serve.

## **PLANNING**

Local government is best placed to lead and influence local and regional planning processes according to the needs and expectations of local communities.

Our communities' quality of life is a priority of local government planning.

## **GOVERNANCE**

Local government must be constitutionally recognised and respected as an equal sphere of government.

Local government is democratically elected to shape, serve and support communities.

Local government is committed to the principles of good governance.



# LGNSW Strategic Plan 2024-2026



## ENVIRONMENT

Local government actions reflect Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD).

ESD requires the effective integration of economic, environmental, and social considerations in decision-making processes and is based on the following principles:

- Intergenerational equity - today's actions maintain or enhance the environment for future generations
- Precautionary - prevent environmental degradation and manage and mitigate risk
- Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity
- Improved valuation and pricing of environmental resources, recognising the value of the environment to the community
- Commit to the principles of the circular economy and minimise the consumption of finite natural resources.

## SOCIAL & COMMUNITY

Local government is committed to the principles of:

- **Equity** - fair distribution of resources
- **Rights** - equality for all people
- **Access** - to services essential to quality of life
- **Participation** - of all people in their community
- **Recognition** - of the unique place of Aboriginal people in NSW and the right of Aboriginal people to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal communities
- **Health & Safety** - for all in the community.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Local government is best placed to plan for, deliver and manage essential local infrastructure.



# Council Complexity

<b>Data - OLG (FY22/23)</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>
Population	1,431	410,897
DA's determined	8	2,174
DA values	\$2,677,760	\$1,975,091,815
Total Revenue	\$19,460,000	\$854,103,000
Asset Maintenance expenditure	\$2,206,000	\$98,663,000
FTE Staff	42	1,743
Swimming pools (incl tidal/rock)	0	26

# Council Complexity

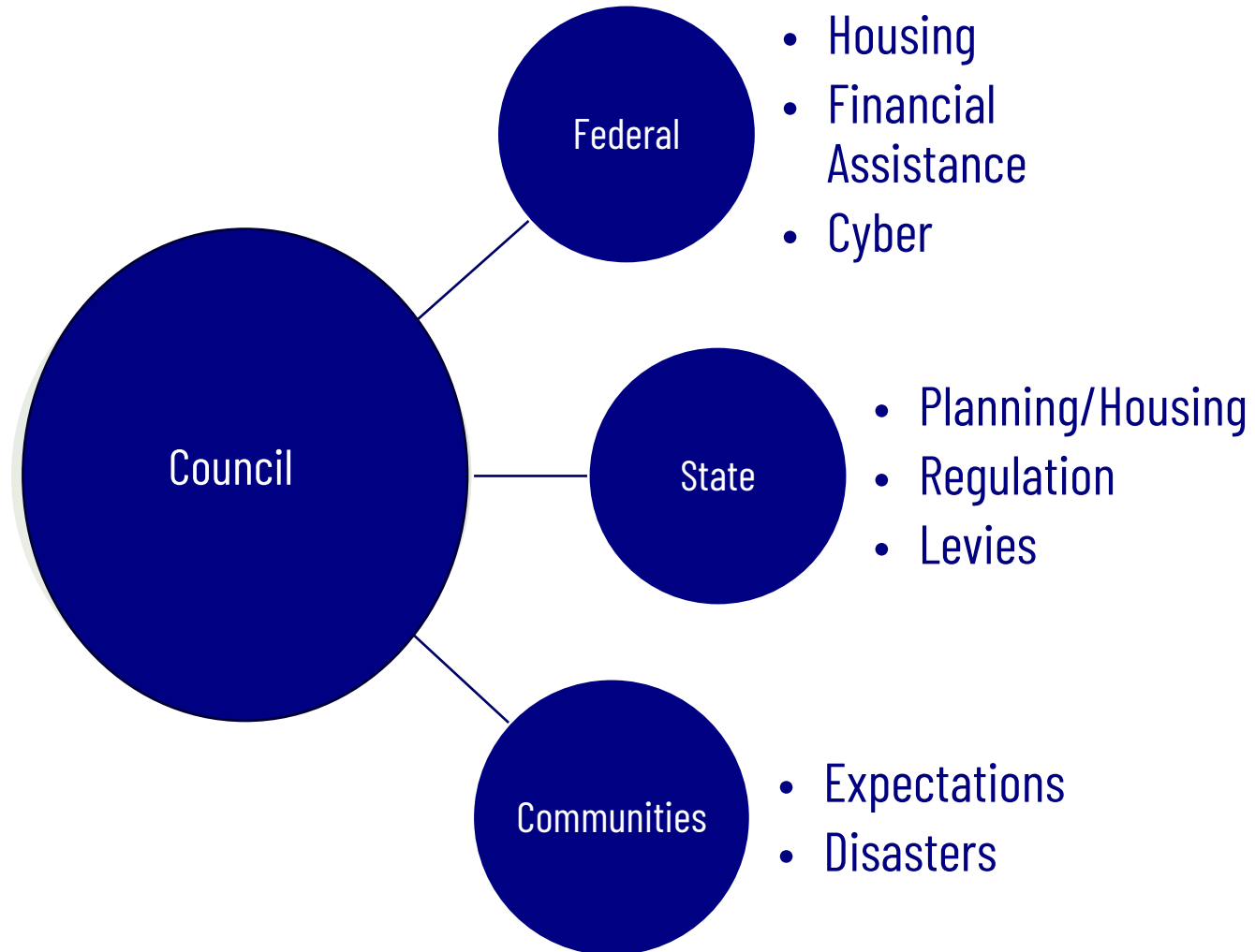
## Sample Council

- 55 Services
- 80-90% core
- 10-20% discretionary
- Dozens of Acts/Reg's

Aquatic and Leisure Centres  
 Arts and Cultural Development  
 Asset Design  
 Asset Management Strategy and Support  
 Audit and Risk  
 Information Centre  
 Building and Engineering Assessment  
 Building Maintenance and Management  
 Building Project Management  
 Civil Asset Construction  
 Civil Asset Maintenance  
 Communications and Marketing  
 Community Development  
 Community Law Enforcement  
 Corporate Records  
 Corporate Strategy and Performance  
 Council and Executive Support  
 Customer Experience  
 Depot Facilities  
 Developer Contributions  
 Development Application Assessment  
 Development Compliance and Regulation  
 Economic Development  
 Emergency Services Support  
 Energy Management  
 Environmental Health  
 Environmental Sustainability  
 Events  
 Financial Management  
 Fixed Plant Systems  
 Fleet Management

Governance  
 Graffiti Management  
 Illegal Dumping Management  
 Information Technology  
 Infrastructure Delivery Management  
 Kids' Early Learning  
 Legal Services  
 Libraries  
 Major Projects and Program Management  
 Open Space and Outdoor Recreation Provision  
 Open Space Maintenance  
 Payroll  
 People and Culture  
 Procurement  
 Property Acquisition and Management  
 Rates and Accounts  
 Safety and Insurance  
 Sports Facilities and Key Sporting Venues  
 Strategic Planning  
 Street Cleaning  
 Transport Planning and Traffic Management  
 Urban Animal Management  
 Urban Design and Architecture  
 Waste Management

# Beholden to others



## Key current and emerging risks

- Cyber
- Pressure to progress housing
- Role of Regulations – e.g. Waste Tendering
- Electoral risk
- Staff turnover/profile

# Parting Suggestions

- Keep your risk management framework robust
- Make sure your risk framework is part of your council induction process
- Use your risk management framework to help your council make decisions

