



Local Government Finance Professionals

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24 June 2024

Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee
Via – online submission

Re: Inquiry into Local Government funding and services

FinPro appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission to the Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committees inquiry into local government funding and services.

FinPro is the peak body servicing local government finance professionals in Victoria. FinPro has over 800 members, representing all Victorian councils. FinPro is pleased that the Committee is investigating local government funding and service delivery in Victoria.

There are increasing financial pressures being felt by all levels of government, business, and community members. The Victorian local government sector is experiencing financial challenges that will ultimately result in the significant reduction of services and infrastructure investment for communities, if changes do not occur.

Local services can be taken for granted as part of the broader government sector, and include – amongst many others – libraries, local roads, maternal child health nurses, planning, sporting grounds, local roads, food safety, parks and playgrounds. Initiatives like climate change mitigation, land use planning, recycling, and integrated transport all support valuable improvements for the sustainability and liveability of our communities.

Financially sustainable Council's contribute to local, state and federal policy priorities, and the sector wants to work in partnership with all tiers of government.

FinPro has recently completed a detailed report and summary (attached) which provides detailed analysis and an assessment that the sustainability of the Victorian local government sector is deteriorating.

Thank you for considering our submission, and we look forward to appearing before the Committee.

Please feel free to contact us with any further questions via our Executive Officer, Gabrielle Gordon, [REDACTED] or on [REDACTED], or myself on [REDACTED]

Regards,

Bradley Thomas
President – FinPro

Local Government Finance Professionals Inc.

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