



Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

**Minister for Local Government
Hon Richard Wynne MP
19 May 2010**



Strengthening accountability and transparency

- Strengthened legislative environment for local government
- Further changes proposed for *Local Government Act*
 - Conflict of interest
 - Electoral representation reviews
- Training & Resources for Councillors
- Performance Measurement – Essential Services Commission



Strengthening accountability and transparency

Local Government Investigations & Compliance Inspectorate

- 2009 – 2010 Achievements
 - Administrative office created September 2009
 - Recruitment program to meet profile
 - Implemented operating processes
- 2010 – 2011 Priorities
 - Commence rolling audit program
 - Best practice governance advice to councils
 - Meet complaint handling timeframes



Improving efficiency by reforming council systems and processes

- Councils Reforming Business:
 - Procurement strategy
 - Easy-Biz
 - Best practice local laws making
 - Harmonised regulatory environment for building and construction sites
 - Reduction in regulatory burden on business



Supporting councils to be more sustainable and resilient

- Sustainability of regional and rural councils
- Local Government & Planning Ministers' Council
- Asset management & National Reform Fund initiatives



Building council capacity to respond to community needs

- Bushfire response
 - Community Assistance Gift Program
 - Murrindindi Section 86 Committee
 - Murrindindi Assistance Package
 - Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSP)
- Neighbourhood Houses
 - Recurrent funding
 - Modernising Neighbourhood Houses Program
- Public Libraries
 - Recurrent funding
 - Living Libraries Program