



Grants to Local Government Queensland Government Policy Position

The Government works closely with 77 Local Governments across Queensland and provides significant support through its grant programs. Working in partnership with the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), the current grant administration system has been reviewed.

The Government has agreed that it will reform its existing grants framework to move to a grants system that is simpler, clearer, more customer-focused, and supports State priorities and responds to Council needs. The new model will be underpinned with improved Council capability and capacity and improved accountability for achieving outcomes.

The new model will work towards:

- 1) A simplified grants system with consolidated grant programs administered by a smaller number of lead agencies.
- 2) More strategic, customer-focused grants programs.
- 3) Grant programs supporting State priorities and objectives and responding to Council strategies and needs, grouped under outcome focussed program streams, such as those recommended by the review:
 - Security of essential services
 - Safe and efficient road and transport network
 - Resilient communities
 - Sustainable natural resource management
 - Community well-being
 - Jobs and economic growth.
- 4) For suitable grant programs a longer term (4-year rolling timeframe) aligned to State forward estimates (reviewed annually) to provide greater certainty to councils in recognition of their budget cycles.
- 5) A move towards allocation-based funding aligned to the outcome-focused program streams for suitable grants.
- 6) Implementation of systems to drive consistency of administration and reporting.
- 7) Capability and capacity building for Councils to drive more strategic and long-term planning, asset planning and asset management.
- 8) Transparent and simplified funding criteria supported by improved monitoring and reporting of outcomes.



The Government will now undertake the detailed implementation planning needed to make this new model a reality. This work will be undertaken by the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs in partnership with the key stakeholders including the LGAQ, the Local Government Managers Association and the Local Government Finance Professionals.