

DOWNLOAD PDF HISTORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Chapter 1 : Local government areas of New South Wales - Infogalactic: the planetary knowledge core

The New South Wales Constitution says: "The Legislature shall, subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act, have power to make laws for the peace, welfare, and good government of New South Wales in all cases whatsoever".

Prehistory of Australia The prior inhabitants of New South Wales were the Aboriginal tribes who arrived in Australia about 40, to 60, years ago. Before European settlement there were an estimated , Aboriginal people in the region. In his original journal s covering the survey, in triplicate to satisfy Admiralty Orders, Cook first named the land "New Wales", named after Wales. However, in the copy held by the Admiralty, he "revised the wording" to "New South Wales". Responsible government was granted to the New South Wales colony in Conventions and forums involving colony leaders were held on a regular basis. Proponents of New South Wales as a free trade state were in dispute with the other leading colony Victoria, which had a protectionist economy. At this time customs posts were common on borders, even on the Murray River. Travelling from New South Wales to Victoria in those days was very difficult. All votes resulted in a majority in favour, but the New South Wales government under Premier George Reid popularly known as "yes&€”no Reid" because of his constant changes of opinion on the issue had set a requirement for a higher "yes" vote than just a simple majority which was not met. In further referenda were held in the same states as well as Queensland but not Western Australia. All resulted in yes votes with majorities increased from the previous year. New South Wales met the conditions its government had set for a yes vote. Early 20th century[edit] In the years after World War I, the high prices enjoyed during the war fell with the resumption of international trade. Farmers became increasingly discontented with the fixed prices paid by the compulsory marketing authorities set up as a wartime measure by the Hughes government. In the farmers formed the Country Party , led at national level by Earle Page , a doctor from Grafton , and at state level by Michael Bruxner , a small farmer from Tenterfield. The Great Depression , which began in , ushered in a period of political and class conflict in New South Wales. The mass unemployment and collapse of commodity prices brought ruin to both city workers and to farmers. The subsequent election was won by the conservative opposition. Japanese POW camp in Cowra, , several weeks before the Cowra breakout By the outbreak of World War II in , the differences between New South Wales and the other states that had emerged in the 19th century had faded as a result of federation and economic development behind a wall of protective tariffs. World War II saw another surge in industrial development to meet the needs of a war economy, and also the elimination of unemployment. Post-war period[edit] Labor stayed in power until Controversy over the cost of the Sydney Opera House became a political issue and was a factor in the eventual defeat of Labor in by the conservative Liberal Party led by Sir Robert Askin. Sir Robert remains a controversial figure with supporters claiming him to be reformist especially in terms of reshaping the NSW economy. The SMR is notable for being the second last system in Australia to use steam haulage. In the late s a secessionist movement in the New England region of the state led to a referendum on the issue. The new state would have consisted of much of northern NSW including Newcastle. The referendum was narrowly defeated and, as of [update] , there are no active or organised campaigns for new states in NSW. Wran was able to transform this narrow one seat victory into landslide wins known as Wranslide in and Greiner called a snap election in which the Liberals were expected to win. However the ALP polled extremely well and the Liberals lost their majority and needed the support of independents to retain power. Greiner was accused by ICAC of corrupt actions involving an allegation that a government position was offered to tempt an independent who had defected from the Liberals to resign his seat so that the Liberal party could regain it and shore up its numbers. Greiner resigned but was later cleared of corruption. His replacement as Liberal leader and Premier was John Fahey whose government secured Sydney the right to host the Summer Olympics. Like Wran before him Carr was able to turn a narrow majority into landslide wins at the next two elections and Carr surprised most people by resigning from office in He was

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replaced by Morris Iemma , who remained Premier after being re-elected in the March state election , until he was replaced by Nathan Rees in September Baird resigned as Premier on 23 January , and was replaced by Gladys Berejiklian.

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Chapter 2 : New South Wales - Wikipedia

This is a list of local government areas (LGA) of New South Wales in Australia.. As of 12 May there were local government areas in New South Wales, comprising thirty cities, 28 councils, six municipalities, eight regional councils, and 58 shires.

Three rural councils did not meet OLG benchmarks for three audited performance measures Most councils met OLG benchmarks for at least five or all of the six audited performance measures. Eighteen councils operating expenses exceed their revenue base The first measure of financial sustainability looks at the operating revenue that councils raise to cover their operating expenses. Eighteen councils operating expenses exceed their revenue base. For 11 councils, this has been the case for the past three years. Rural councils have high-value infrastructure assets that cover large areas, with smaller populations and less capacity to raise revenue from alternative sources compared with metropolitan councils. Most councils also have the capacity to cover more than three months of operating expenditure as measured by the cash expense cover ratio. However, some of the funds held by councils are restricted and should only be used for specific purposes. A council with a high proportion of restricted funds may have limited flexibility to pay operating expenses. This was due to these two councils repaying borrowings early. Councils utilise borrowings to fund capital projects and to address backlog maintenance. These eighteen councils also did not meet the infrastructure backlog ratio. Thirty-one councils reported they do not meet the OLG benchmarks for either the buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio, the infrastructure backlog ratio or the asset maintenance ratio. Many of our audit report qualifications, significant matters, prior-period errors and high risk issues related to assets. This is in addition to the rural fire-fighting equipment not recorded by councils that is discussed in the following sections. We also found examples of multiple asset registers with conflicting information, inaccurate or incomplete registers and unreconciled registers. Effective asset management requires accurate records of the assets that councils control. Council asset registers should accurately capture all assets to improve the quality and timeliness of financial statements. It is important that councils regularly update registers and reconcile them with asset management systems. Where manual spreadsheets are used to record asset details, suitable controls must be in place. These councils are of the view that they do not control these rural fire-fighting assets used by the NSW Rural Fire Service. Consequently, a large portion of rural fire-fighting assets are not reported in either State government or local government financial statements. Asset valuation methods are not capturing asset values effectively The Code requires that council assets reflect the fair value principles in Australian Accounting Standards. Many significant issues arose in our audits because council asset revaluation processes were not robust. This affected both the quality and timeliness of the financial statements. Our audits identified that ten councils overstated the fair value of land assets as their valuations did not take into account external restrictions on community land or land under roads as required by the Code and Australian Accounting Standards. We also found multiple cases where councils did not adequately review valuation results, comply with applicable codes or obtain accurate valuations. Councils need to improve their asset valuation processes by strengthening reviews, supporting valuations with robust documentation and commencing the revaluation process earlier in the financial year. Considerable variability in the way councils report the useful lives of similar assets We found considerable variability in the way councils reported the useful lives of similar assets in their financial statements. The useful lives of all assets need to be reviewed annually using current asset condition assessments. All councils should comply with OLG asset planning requirements Sound asset management requires effective planning. We found that 13 councils did not have an asset management policy, strategy and plan. Governance and internal controls Councils should prioritise high risk governance and control deficiencies Our audits reported 17 high risk issues relating to policies and procedures, risk management, manual journals, reconciliations, purchasing and payables, and payroll processes. It is important to address high risk matters as a priority. Councils can improve management

oversight and governance structures We found that councils can strengthen governance measures, by having audit committees and internal audit functions, policies and procedures for critical business processes, legislative compliance frameworks and risk management practices. Councils are not currently required to have an audit, risk and improvement committee and consequently 53 councils do not have an audit committee. Recommendation Councils should early adopt the proposed requirement to establish an audit, risk and improvement committee. An internal audit function is currently not a requirement for councils, and consequently, 52 councils do not have this function. Recommendation The Office of Local Government should introduce the requirement for councils to establish internal audit functions and update its Internal Audit Guidelines. OLG maintains a register of council entities for which ministerial approval has been sought. Our audit work concluded that the register that OLG maintains is not complete. Recommendation The Office of Local Government should maintain an accurate register of entities approved under section of the Local Government Act We also found that the Local Government Act does not stipulate a financial reporting framework for council entities. As a result, there are disparate reporting and auditing practices for entities established across the sector. Recommendation The Office of Local Government should consider establishing a financial reporting framework for council entities. Councils can strengthen policies and procedures to support business processes Our audits identified two high risk instances in two councils where business and IT policies and procedures did not exist to support critical business and information technology processes. It is important that critical policies, standards and guidelines are available to staff and contractors to provide direction for the day-to-day operations of a council, promote consistency in processes, clarify roles and responsibilities and support compliance with laws, regulations and codes. Councils can improve internal controls in business processes Effective internal controls are important to help councils operate efficiently and effectively, to meet service delivery objectives, and to enable accurate and timely reporting. We identified two high risk issues where councils had weak controls over manual journals. In one instance, this resulted in significant errors in the financial statements. Councils should independently review manual journals and prepare and review account reconciliations earlier. We identified five high risk internal control deficiencies in the purchasing function relating to unauthorised expenditure, non-compliance with tendering guidelines and a significant breakdown of purchasing controls. We noted one high risk internal control deficiency in the payroll function related to payroll staff having unrestricted access to amend sensitive payroll data in the system. Information Technology Like many organisations, councils increasingly rely on information technology IT to deliver services and manage sensitive information. Our audits reported nine high risk issues, predominantly related to inappropriate user access. Information technology deficiencies represented the highest number of issues we reported. Controls over user access to IT systems need to be strengthened User access controls reduce the risk of users having excessive access to critical financial systems and sensitive information. Our audits found many instances where user access controls were insufficient. These controls should ensure that individuals only have access to financial systems and data necessary to undertake their job responsibilities. Our audits also found examples of users with inappropriate privileged access In addition, we found instances of inadequate review and insufficient retention of access logs to monitor the activities of privileged system users. Privileged access occurs when a person can change key system configurations and has wide access to system data, files and accounts. We also identified external IT service providers with unrestricted privileged access to council systems and data. It is important that councils strengthen user access administration to prevent inappropriate access. They should update user access roles in line with the responsibilities of a position and review the level of user access regularly. Councils also need to ensure their existing risk management framework provides assurance for controls over IT outsourcing, and strengthen controls where required. We identified weaknesses in user developed applications UDAs , which are developed or managed outside IT administration. This increases the risk of errors that may adversely affect the integrity and quality of information produced. Councils need to strengthen information technology governance IT governance should be founded on: We found that one in four councils do not have an IT strategy or IT operational plan

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and some need to develop or improve IT policies and procedures. Sixty-six councils do not have an adequate information security policy. Seventeen councils also do not have a documented plan to recover from a disaster. Councils need to develop a plan and periodically review it. They also need to periodically test that they can restore backed-up data to ensure business continuity in the face of a system disaster.

Chapter 3 : Local government in New South Wales

The Origin of Local Government in New South Wales, - Volume One by Larcombe, Frederick A.. Sydney, Sydney University Press In Association With The Local Government Association Of New South Wales And The Shires Association Of New South Wales,

Chapter 4 : Category:Local government areas in New South Wales - Wikimedia Commons

The first local councils in New South Wales (NSW) were incorporated in , with 29 District Councils established under the provisions of the Imperial Act of , An Act for the Government of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. At the same time Sydney was declared a city.

Chapter 5 : Shared services in local government - Audit Office of New South Wales

Genre/Form: History: Additional Physical Format: Online version: Larcombe, Frederick A. History of local government in New South Wales. [Sydney] Sydney University Press in association with Local Government Association of New South Wales [and] Shires Association of New South Wales [

Chapter 6 : Local government areas of New South Wales - WikiVisually

The New South Wales Minister for Local Government is a minister in the New South Wales Government and has responsibilities which includes all local government areas and related legislation in New South Wales, the most primary of which is the Local Government Act The minister administers the portfolio through the.

Chapter 7 : A history of local government in New South Wales / by F.A. Larcombe. - Version details - Trove

The local government areas (LGA) of New South Wales in Australia describes the institutions and processes by which areas, cities, towns, municipalities, regions, shires, and districts can manage their own affairs to the extent permitted by the Local Government Act

Chapter 8 : Welsh Government | Local government

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Chapter 9 : Office of Local Government |

Local government in New South Wales The committee is inquiring into local government in New South Wales. The committee will be holding public forums in Sydney on 10 August and Armidale on 18 August