

2020 Local Government NSW Conference Actions – last updated March 2021

The full list of Ministerial responses to annual conference resolutions can be found [here](#).

The full list of LGNSW submissions can be found [here](#).

All conference resolutions sent to the leaders of parties in NSW Parliament and Independents encouraging them to share with their colleagues.

Resolution	LGNSW actions	Responses and outcomes to date
<p>3 Mosman Municipal Council - Local Government State Award That Local Government NSW conducts an independent review of the current arrangements and procedures for negotiating and finalising the Local Government State Award, and any interim or variation to that award, by a suitably experienced consultant such as a former tribunal member, to ensure best practice governance and transparency for its members is achieved.</p>	<p>Considered by LGNSW's Industrial Advisory Committee on 10 March 2021. Committee recommendations are being reviewed by the LGNSW Board.</p>	
<p>5 Murray River Council - Future conferences and training online That Local Government NSW gives consideration to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Future conferences being online or having an online component to enable councillors who cannot travel to participate, and 2. Future training offerings for councillors online to enable more councillors to participate in learning and development activities without the inconvenience and cost of travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each conference, event or forum is evaluated for its ability to be held as an in person, online or hybrid. • Many learning programs are now delivered online as a result of the COVID-19 impact. • LGNSW will continue to review and deliver online programs where feasible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding activities online extends our reach and positively impacts on attendance from regional areas where travel, time and cost are factors. • Some of our programs have seen positive increase in attendance such as the Employment Law seminar. • LGNSW Learning has begun to promote pre and post-election training programs.
<p>6 Newcastle City Council - Local government exclusion from National Cabinet That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes with disappointment that local government is not represented on the newly formed National Cabinet and seeks their assistance in requesting that First Ministers review the decision to exclude local government; 2. Seeks meetings with the Prime Minister and the Premier to discuss in more detail the importance of having local government representation on National Cabinet and the value of partnerships with councils in achieving the objectives of the National Cabinet and the national reform agenda; and 3. Notes that the Australian Local Government Association, Local Government NSW and other state/territory local government associations will continue to advocate for local government representation on the National Cabinet and for local government's interests in all relevant forums. <p><i>This issue was also raised by City of Canterbury-Bankstown and Wollondilly Shire Councils.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP (federal) • Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	<p>On 23 November the Minister for Local Government wrote to LGNSW reiterating previous comments by the Premier that the NSW Government would represent the views of NSW councils in the National Cabinet.</p>
<p>7 Blayney Shire Council - Emergency management reform That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government, specifically Resilience NSW to transfer responsibility for emergency management to the NSW Government to deliver the following outcomes:</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon David Elliott MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP • Commissioner, Resilience NSW 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decentralisation of emergency management roles to regional NSW providing stronger local knowledge and employment in the regions. Improved capacity for resilience and recovery planning with that resource capable to transition directly into leading recovery (instead of local government). Significant efficiency gains in the emergency management space with a greater capacity for more on-ground professional emergency management personnel in each local government area or agreed combined areas. More consistent emergency management outcomes regardless of the size or capacity of the council (which itself is highly variable). Improved strategy and delivery of emergency services infrastructure through integration. Improved alignment by allowing local councils and the NSW Police to focus on their core roles. Improved facilities, support and training for emergency service volunteers. A significant boost to the financial sustainability of all councils in NSW. A greater capacity within local councils to develop and implement permanent resilience improvements (e.g. on critical infrastructure). Local councils still have a critical role to play in emergency management planning and response through a 'seat at the table', and, That the transfer of responsibility includes removal of the \$120 million local government annual contribution to emergency services and the transfer of ownership of Rural Fire Services and State Emergency Services infrastructure from local government to the NSW Government. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Coolamon Shire, Weddin Shire, Greater Hume, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional, Kempsey Shire, Bellingen Shire, Carrathool Shire and Fairfield City Councils.</i></p>	<p>11 Feb 2021 - LGNSW President met with Minister Elliott</p> <p>12 March 2021 - submission on NSW Tax Reform, emphasising need to replace ESL with a Broad Based Property Tax.</p>	
<p>8 Bega Valley Shire Council - NSW Bushfire Inquiry endorsement</p> <p>That Local Government NSW endorses the NSW Government's Bushfire Inquiry Report and urges Resilience NSW to proceed with implementation of the Inquiry's recommendations as a matter of urgency.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Snowy Valleys Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon David Elliott MP Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Commissioner, Resilience NSW <p>11 Feb 2021 - LGNSW President met with Minister Elliott</p>	
<p>9 Tenterfield Shire Council - Cultural burning to facilitate fire management</p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to support cultural burning on Crown Lands, National Parks and State Forest held lands in every State of Australia, and the training and employment of indigenous people to carry out this important task.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon David Elliott MP Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Commissioner, Resilience NSW 	

<p>10 Shoalhaven City Council - Coast and estuary grants funding That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to release the additional unallocated funding from the Coastal and Estuary Grants Program to flood affected local government areas.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon David Elliott MP <p>Raised with DPIE at January 2021 Energy, Environment and Science (EES) liaison meeting.</p>	
<p>12 Tenterfield Shire Council - Funding increase to drought proof Australia That Local Government NSW advocates for the State and Federal Governments to increase funding for agricultural research, including pasture research to assist in drought proofing Australia.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Agriculture, Drought, and Emergency Management, the Hon David Littleproud MP (federal) Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon Adam Marshall MP 	
<p>13 Warren Shire Council - Equality of drought and COVID-19 pandemic support That Local Government NSW petitions the Federal Government to ensure equality of financial support for drought impacted individuals, families, producers and service providers on the same basis as that being provided to employees, families, the unemployed and business during the COVID-19 pandemic and that the government:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediately address the inequity that exists between the drought response and that to the COVID-19 crisis. 2. Develop strategies for future droughts that reflect the importance of the regions and that values them accordingly. 3. Focus on primary criteria and actions that relate to loss of income and protecting people in drought when they are most vulnerable. 4. Safeguard and protect our human resources and vital Australian food and fibre production capacity and its security. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Agriculture, Drought, and Emergency Management, the Hon David Littleproud MP (federal) 	
<p>14 Shoalhaven City Council Asset Protection Zones That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to carry out the following actions to local government areas in NSW with respect to Asset Protection Zones (APZ):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To exempt hazard reduction burns and the construction of asset protection zones, required as a result of a duly adopted standard, from the provisions of the EPBC Act and the NSW Environmental Legislation, internal Government Agency Policies, or any other limitations within other Acts or Regulations which restrict any authorised authority from constructing and maintaining APZs or undertaking hazard reduction burns. 2. Adopt as a general policy that Urban settlements requiring the provision of an APZ at the interface with natural areas, such APZ be at least 200m and to have such APZs managed as Park Lands. 3. To enact Legislation to require a private land holder (including Aboriginal Land) to create and maintain a 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Hon David Elliott MP Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP Commissioner, Resilience NSW <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting, given NPWS references.</p>	

<p>parkland like cleared area of generally 200m to act as an APZ between the subject land and the interface with any urban development requiring the provision of an APZ, where a property owner fails to comply with this requirement an authorised authority may carry out the work and charge the land holder for the works, with the exception of Aboriginal Land where the clearing will remain a cost on the authority.</p> <p>4. To require any Government Authority who manages forested areas to properly maintain and improve the construction of fire trails, this is to include the removal of any obstructions other than locked gates.</p> <p>5. To consider the construction of strategic fire breaks through forested areas including National Parks of a similar width to a major electricity easement.</p>		
<p>15 Wollondilly Shire Council - Service Award for Individual First Responders That Local Government NSW advocates for the establishment of a Local Government Service Award for Individual First Responders in the form of a medal or ribbon to be worn on their uniform recognising their conduct or action to protect their community. There is currently no appropriate acknowledgement of first responders at a local government level. <i>This issue was also raised by Blacktown City Council.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP 	
<p>16 Georges River Council - Protecting democracy at the 2021 local government elections That Local Government NSW:</p> <p>(a) Calls for the NSW Government to protect local democracy by ensuring councils and communities retain choice in their method of voting to encourage more people to participate in the electoral process.</p> <p>(b) Calls for the NSW Government to ensure local government elections are conducted in a manner as similar as possible to State elections to make democratic participation simple for voters and support voter turnout.</p> <p>(c) Opposes the introduction of universal postal voting which risks disenfranchising voters through discouraging voter participation and diminishing the status of local government.</p> <p>(d) Calls for the NSW Government to fund any increase in the costs of local government elections beyond the rate peg imposed on councils. <i>This issue was also raised by Broken Hill City Council and Lithgow City Council.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	<p>In November 2020 the Minister for Local Government announced the NSW Government had ruled out imposing universal postal voting for council elections as part of a NSW Budget announcement and following extensive LGNSW advocacy. The NSW Government also committed to funding any costs required to ensure the local government elections are COVID-safe, allocating \$57 million.</p> <p>The Minister for Local Government confirmed these announcements in a 30 November 2020 letter to the LGNSW President.</p>
<p>18 Georges River Council - Electronic signatures on Electoral Commission documents That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Electoral Commission and the NSW Government to:</p> <p>(a) Improve compliance outcomes and ensure accessibility for all members of the community, all existing processes</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP • Special Minister of State, the Hon. Don Harwin MLC • NSW Electoral Commissioner 	

<p>(including forms) for candidates and public office holders be reviewed to ensure that they are simple and easy to understand</p> <p>(b) Reduce the administrative burden on citizens seeking to be involved in Local Government by amending all relevant legislation and regulations to permit electoral documents, including periodic disclosures, to be signed and lodged electronically.</p>		
<p>20 Narrandera Shire Council - NSW electorate districts redistribution process</p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to undertake a formal review of the redistribution process in NSW, seeking to ensure that regional/rural areas west of the Great Dividing Range are represented adequately into the future</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Leeton Shire Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Minister of State, the Hon. Don Harwin MLC 	
<p>21 City of Canterbury-Bankstown – Improving recycling systems in NSW</p> <p>To support existing LGNSW Policy that 100% NSW Waste Levy should be returned to councils, Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to increase the proportion of the waste levy reinvested in recycling and waste management. This funding would include but not limited to illegal dumping, the circular economy and the rehabilitation of historic orphan dump sites.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by City of Canterbury-Bankstown, Blacktown City, Bourke Shire, Central Coast, Lismore City, Cessnock City, Blacktown City.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 Energy, Environment and Science (EES) liaison meeting, noting relevance to 20 year waste strategy development.</p>	
<p>21a Federation Council - Waste to Energy</p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to more urgently progress concrete actions and strategy to enable projects to develop including a strategic pathway towards funding regional waste management solutions also involving Joint Organisations, and the Federal Government.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting, noting relevance to 20 year waste strategy development.</p>	
<p>23 Randwick City Council - Proposals for incineration of waste in urban Sydney</p> <p>That the conference opposes partnerships between the waste disposal industry and other industries for cogeneration plants (or “Energy Recovery Plants”) similar to the Matraville proposal between Opal Paper Mill and the waste company Suez Group on the grounds that they are essentially repackaged waste incineration plants. In doing so the association notes that emissions from such plants are a health danger to local communities and an obstacle to achieving the infrastructure and circular economy solutions advocated for under clause 12.1.a) of the Waste and Recycling Position Statement of our adopted Local Government NSW Platform Policy.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting, noting relevance to 20 year waste strategy development.</p>	
<p>24 Federation Council - COVID-19 recovery</p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to develop a comprehensive COVID-19 recovery package to assist communities and businesses recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP • NSW Treasurer 	<p>Councils have secured a total of \$5.3 billion in Federal and State recovery and resilience funding, in the wake of the Black Summer bushfires, floods and the economic havoc wreaked by the COVID pandemic. This is the largest quantum of funding ever for councils, especially in the areas of infrastructure programs and drought and bushfire assistance. LGNSW advocacy has helped deliver:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$395 million COVID-19 economic stimulus package – the only one handed down by a State Government • \$170 million for local government amid sustained drought • \$225 million in new and accelerated funding under the Fixing Local Roads program • \$130 million for council early childhood education and pre-school services hard hit by emergency health orders • Funding for public spaces projects, including local roads, footpaths, cycleways, and other community infrastructure under the \$250 million Public Spaces Legacy Program.
<p>25 Liverpool City Council - COVID-19 impacts and Fit for the Future guidelines</p> <p>That the LGNSW conference:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes the collapse in revenues and seek a rates guarantee to ensure financial liquidity, financial assistance to maintain existing employment levels and explicit inclusion of local government in any future stimulus packages; Support Local Government NSW's campaign to suspend Fit for the Future (FFF) guidelines given current circumstances, including writing to the Minister for Local Government as appropriate; and Note that councils believe FFF targets and benchmarks are now outdated and should be reviewed as councils will be increasingly unable to meet targets and benchmarks during the pandemic. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>26 Blue Mountains City Council - Active Transport Infrastructure</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That Local Government NSW advocates to the State and Federal Governments to create clear and dedicated funding programs to support the building of active transport infrastructure, such as footpaths and shared paths/cycleways; That these programs should be considered as part of the economic stimulus packages that are critical in keeping the economy going in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the impacts of the Black Summer bushfires; and That this program provides full grant funding rather than 50/50 shared cost arrangements, to enable councils to deliver on their Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plans. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon. Paul Toole MP • Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP 	
<p>27 Goldenfields Water County Council - Water County Council grant funding</p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates on behalf of Water County Councils to be included in, and receive an equitable share of grant funding provided by Federal and NSW Governments.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP (federal) • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>28 Tweed Shire Council - Economic stimulus for regenerative landscape management</p> <p>The Local Government NSW lobbies the Federal and NSW Governments to request a specific and significant funding stream be made available for regenerative landscape management as an economic stimulus to be administered at local government level.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Sussan Ley (federal) • Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting.</p>	

<p>29 Gilgandra Shire Council - First generation dying swimming pools in regional NSW That Local Government NSW pursue designated funding from the NSW Government for the urgent replacement of first generation dying swimming pools in regional NSW.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP A/ Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors & Veterans, the Hon. Geoff Lee MP 	<p>Response received from Minister Lee on 1 March. Minister Lee noted that the NSW Government is aware of the needs of regional communities for repair of sports infrastructure. The Minister encourages all regional NSW councils to apply for the second round of the Regional Sport Facility Fund which will open later in 2021, for grants between \$100,000 and \$1 million.</p>
<p>30 Snowy Valleys Council - Eligibility criteria for Job Retention Allowance That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to amend the eligibility criteria for the Job Retention Allowance funds to allow a fairer distribution to impacted councils who have not had to 'stand down' staff as a result of the pandemic.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>31 Cabonne Council - Stronger Country Communities funding - additional round That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks the NSW Government for providing \$400 million towards local infrastructure projects across regional NSW via the Stronger Country Communities fund. Acknowledges that the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities fund has enhanced regional communities and stimulated regional economies that have been hit hard by drought and bushfires. Lobbies the NSW Government to commit to an additional round of Stronger Country Communities funding, due to the economic impacts of COVID-19. This would allow the previous 93 eligible regional councils as well as incorporated and not-for-profit organisations in those local government areas to access \$1 million in funding for community infrastructure projects. Calls on the NSW Government to include in the criteria that infrastructure projects must stimulate regional economies by employing local tradespeople and buying local supplies. Notes that all state Government funding should be administered in a fair, transparent and competent manner. In the last round some Councils who meet the guidelines to qualified for a grant from the NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund were excluded from applying. We also note the decision making process for the allocation of funds in now a matter before the NSW Auditor General. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Bourke Shire Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Industry and Trade, the Hon John Barilaro MP 	
<p>32 Newcastle City Council - Gateway City classification That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Calls on the NSW Government to establish a consistent geography and classification across all NSW Government funding sources that enables equitable access for all local government areas (LGAs). This would provide more integrity to the process and enable new opportunities for LGAs like Newcastle and Wollongong, who have been effectively shut out from a range of funding sources; and 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	

<p>2. Asks the NSW Government to create a Gateway City classification to recognise that LGAs like Newcastle and Wollongong are major regional economic centres that sit between a metropolitan and regional classification. Gateway Cities will play a critical role in the future economic resilience and competitive opportunities of the state, particularly with the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. This would improve the efficiency and value for money of NSW Government grants.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Wollongong City Council.</i></p>		
<p>33 Lane Cove Council - Post-COVID-19 stimulus funding to promote the arts</p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government for post-COVID-19 stimulus funding to promote the arts (art galleries, performances, exhibitions, festivals) in our communities.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Bega Valley Shire, Wagga Wagga City and Lismore City Councils.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, the Hon. Don Harwin MLC 	<p>Following LGNSW advocacy, in January 2021 the NSW Government confirmed that council-run venues will be eligible to participate in the Dine and Discover NSW voucher scheme, which will provide each NSW resident aged 18 and over with four \$25 vouchers. Two of the four vouchers can be used for entertainment and recreation at cultural institutions, live music, and arts venues. With councils running so many of NSW's theatres, galleries and arts and cultural venues, this is terrific news for councils and their communities and will support artists, performers, and creatives across the state.</p>
<p>34 Georges River Council - Inquiry into the Local Government Rating System in NSW</p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on members of the NSW Legislative Council to immediately establish an Inquiry into the NSW Local Government Rating and Revenue System to ensure that the long term financial sustainability of councils can be guaranteed and to address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The response of the NSW Government to the IPART Review of the NSW Rating System (2016) that found 'the current system undermines council incentives to pursue growth and urban renewal, because they do not receive a commensurate increase in rates revenue to service new developments'; The findings of the August 2020 NSW Productivity Commission Green Paper that found 'the rate peg system does not currently compensate councils for having to service a larger pool of ratepayers, this leaves local governments with insufficient revenue to meet demand and an incentive to avoid housing growth'; The lack of action arising from the findings of the Henry Review of Taxation, the NSW Treasury Corporation's assessment of the financial sustainability of NSW councils and the NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel's Final Report; The financial impact on the 2016 amalgamated councils and their communities, of the 'rates path protection freeze' that prevented the introduction of fair and equitable rating systems within 20 amalgamated local government areas until 2020; The intergenerational inequity arising from the lack of rating reform in NSW; 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP NSW Treasurer 	

<p>6. Whether the century-old rating system and the NSW Local Government Act 1993 remains fit for purpose;</p> <p>7. The demand from communities that councils take on the increasing financial responsibilities of population growth, infrastructure requirements and provide an increasingly large and diverse range of services, and the impact that the rate peg has on those responsibilities; and</p> <p>8. The impact of cost shifting from Federal and NSW Governments onto NSW councils without financial compensation.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Lake Macquarie City Council.</i></p>		
<p>35 Blue Mountains City Council Fixing the Unfair Rating Systems in NSW</p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <p>1. Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> annual increases in overall rates charged by local councils are set each year by the NSW Government's Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) through the rate peg system. In 2020-2021 the rate peg increase was 2.6% to take account of costing of living/CPI increases; at the same time, the NSW Valuer General's three yearly cycle of reassessment of land valuations to determine individual household rates means that individual rate payers may experience wildly different variations in their rates when compared to anticipated and published IPART rate peg increase. For example, in the Blue Mountains LGA, the NSW Valuer General's wholesale reassessment of land values meant that some individual households experienced rate increases of up to 40% (15 times more than the rate peg), while other households' ratings charges stayed the same and some households rates went down. Meanwhile, the overall ratings amount levied by the Council did not increase beyond the IPART rate peg of 2.6%; the NSW Government directed IPART to undertake a review of the NSW Ratings System in 2016 and it has taken four years for the NSW Government to respond and the Government is yet to implement any changes to improve the ratings system across NSW. <p>2. Calls on the NSW Government to fix the broken and unfair ratings system in NSW to make the ratings system fairer and predictable for all property owners across NSW.</p> <p>3. Calls on the NSW Government to fully fund the excessive rate increases caused by the NSW Valuer General's reassessment of land values in local government areas, due to the economic impacts of the Black Summer bushfires, February floods and the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP <p>LGNSW made a submission on the Exposure Draft of the Local Government Amendment (Rates) Bill 2021.</p>	

<p>36 Bland Shire Council - IPART Review of the Local Government Rating System That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government, in the strongest possible terms, to ensure that Recommendation 34 of the 2016 IPART Review of the NSW Local Government Rating System does not become legislation because of the severe and adverse financial impact this will have on all mining affected communities in NSW. <i>This issue was also raised by Broken Hill City, Lachlan Shire and Blayney Shire Councils.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP <p>LGNSW made a submission on the Exposure Draft of the Local Government Amendment (Rates) Bill 2021.</p>	<p>In December 2020 the Minister for Local Government responded to LGNSW advising that an exposure draft Bill regarding rating reform would be published imminently.</p> <p>Local Government Amendment Bill 2021 introduced to parliament in March 2021.</p>
<p>37 Lachlan Shire Council - Re-ascertainment of mining land That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government and the NSW Valuer General to limit or prohibit the retrospective revaluation or re-ascertainment of land values, for mining properties, beyond the current base valuation year.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP NSW Valuer General 	
<p>38 Forbes Shire Council - Consideration of land value by the Valuer General That Local Government NSW lobbies the Valuer General to not take into account the approvals for water use and water supply works when determining rural land values.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP NSW Valuer General 	
<p>39 Blue Mountains City Council - Crown Lands and Plans of Management That councils at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Seek the NSW Government fully fund the costs associated with transfer of management of Crown Lands to local councils, including the costs of developing and implementing Plans of Management for Crown Land Reserves; Seek the NSW Government recognise the difficulties being encountered by local government of NSW in meeting the requirements of the Crown Lands Management Act 2016 and extend the timeframe for adoption of Plans of Management for public reserves for which councils are appointed as Crown Land Manager; and Seek the NSW Government improve training and support provided for appointed Native Title Managers within local government of NSW. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Greater Hume and Shoalhaven City Councils.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP NSW Crown Land Commissioner 	
<p>41 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council - Financial Assistance Grants That, if the Federal Government commits significant additional funding to Federal Assistance Grants to ensure no council is worse off, Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to reconsider the factors that determine the allocation of Financial Assistance Grants, being road distance and other terrain issues, so that local government areas with difficult terrain receive a fairer distribution of Financial Assistance Grants. This is for the reason that the cost to build a</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP (federal) Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	

<p>kilometre of road in undulating and mountainous country is substantially more expensive than in the tablelands.</p>		
<p>42 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council - Capital Improved Value The NSW Government introduce a Capital Improved Value (CIV) to the NSW rating system as an option available to all councils. This is so that growth and rates and revenue outside the rate peg percentage be calculated on changes to the CIV as this would enable growth in the rate base to keep pace with real growth and associated increases in demand for council infrastructure and services. In light of such support increasing the income of city councils, then a redistribution of Financial Assistance Grants to rural councils be considered at the same time, to enhance financial sustainability for the sector.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP NSW Valuer General <p>LGNSW made a submission on the Exposure Draft of the Local Government Amendment (Rates) Bill 2021 calling on the NSW Government to provide councils with the option to use CIV for rating purposes.</p>	
<p>43 Lismore City Council - Australian made workwear That Local Government NSW encourages councils to purchase Australian made workwear (and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to bolster the national manufacturing industry.</p>	<p>Ongoing action for LGNSW</p>	
<p>44 North Sydney Council - Rates paid by educational institutions That Local Government NSW calls for the NSW Government to ensure educational institutions acquiring additional land pay council rates on new acquisitions.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>45 Lismore City Council - Maintenance payments in funding for construction projects That Local Government NSW strongly advocates for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A change to State and Federal Government funding regimes to include acceptance of a strong case for part funding of maintenance on construction projects over \$100 million for city councils and \$20 million for rural and regional councils. The establishment of a 'means test' or equivalent to apply maintenance funding. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP (federal) Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>46 Lismore City Council - Insurance for residents undertaking roadside maintenance That Local Government NSW make representations to StateCover to offer an option for councils to provide insurance coverage for residents who undertake maintenance on roadside verges.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide Mutual CivicRisk Mutual 	<p>Email response received from CivicRisk Mutual on 24 February advising the matter will be raised at the next Risk Management Committee for consideration, scheduled 9 April.</p>
<p>47 Blacktown City Council - Change how a council's borrowing limit is calculated That Local Government NSW urgently calls on the NSW Government to amend how the Debt Coverage Ratio for local government is calculated, so external borrowings to forward fund Section 7.11 infrastructure do not limit other borrowings funded from general funds.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>48 Blacktown City Council - Removing restrictions on power purchase agreements That Local Government NSW requests the Minister for Local Government to make a formal determination that entry into a renewable energy power purchase agreement structured as a contract for difference does not constitute an "investment" for</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP (OUT- 31999). 	

<p>the purposes of Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and the Ministerial Investment Order 2011, and to take the steps required to clarify this for NSW councils and enable their ability to enter such agreements.</p>		
<p>49 Narromine Shire Council - Statewide water security That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government and Federal Government to expediate the lifting of flood mitigation zones to ensure state-wide water security, including at Burrendong Dam.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP 	
<p>50 Federation Council - Funding for critical water and sewer infrastructure That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to provide improved funding pathways for councils to be able to gain 60% + funding for replacement of critical water and sewer plants/major enabling infrastructure.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP 	
<p>51 Bourke Shire Council - Murray Darling Basin Plan That Local Government lobbies the Federal Government to expedite the finalisation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan to allow individuals and communities to plan for the future with an increased level of certainty.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia, the Hon Keith Pitt MP (federal) 	
<p>52 City of Sydney - Woronora reservoir</p> <p>1. That Local Government NSW notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the NSW Government has recently granted planning approvals for an expansion of coal mining operations under Woronora reservoir, one of Sydney's key drinking water catchments; the new expansion will see new coal faces established under the Woronora Dam, which supplies drinking water to Sydney. Up to three new underground coal faces will be established at the mine, with two of them running below the dam's water storage; this decision to allow coal mining under the Woronora reservoir poses a direct threat to the drinking water of hundreds of thousands of Sydneysiders; mining activities under the reservoir could compromise the integrity of the water storages, potentially leading to leakages, and flow on environmental damage to the surrounding water table and the quality of drinking water supplies; and the full impacts of the underground mining operations will not be known for several decades, and changes in the geological structures below the dam could continue well after the final coal has been extracted from the site; and <p>2. That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> opposes the approval of long-wall coal mines under Sydney's drinking catchments; 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP <p>Submission to the Independent Planning Commission on the Dendrobium Mining Extension Project.</p>	<p>The Independent Planning Commission rejected the South 32 Dendrobium mine extension on grounds that the proposed mine design risks long-term and irreversible damage to Greater Sydney and the Illawarra's drinking water catchment.</p>

<p>vii. lobbies the NSW Government against the issue of long-wall mining approvals under Woronora reservoir, and other mines which have the potential to risk contaminating Sydney's drinking water supply; and</p> <p>viii. opposes the approval of any mines which have the potential to contaminate drinking water supply of any community in NSW.</p>		
<p>53 Bourke Shire Council - Water security That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide the required resources to expedite the planning and consultation period for the proposed Western Weirs Program.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP 	
<p>54 Tamworth Regional Council - Water recycling opportunities That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to review the approval process to allow more rapid delivery of recycled water options; fund research into how water is recycled and treatment processes available for handling by-products from those processes and to commence a community education campaign across the State in relation to direct and in direct potable reuse.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP 	
<p>55 Murray River Council - Mandatory monitoring of sewerage/waste water That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide financial support to local government in meeting the requirements of sewage/waste water monitoring for the detection of pandemic related disease and illegal drugs; and Lobby the Federal Government for a national adoption of the scheme. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP 	
<p>56 Tamworth Regional Council - Independent Water Commission That Local Government NSW petition the NSW Government to reinstate the role of Water Commissioner and establish an Independent Water Commission in order to provide an open and transparent process for the negotiation of water sharing plans that will deliver sustainable water security solutions for local communities.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP 	
<p>57 Lachlan Shire Council - Community water allocations That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government, WaterNSW and DPIE Water to review existing water allocation rules, for the purpose of providing community water allocations for regional and rural communities, where local economies and community wellness are adversely impacted by reduced water allocations.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP CEO, Water NSW Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. 	
<p>58 Randwick City Council - Overreach of NSW Government planning powers That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Calls on the NSW Government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> implement policies that ensure that planning decisions are community led and which recognise that local councils are best placed to make decisions about planning that is appropriate for their local area and constituents; and 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP <p>LGNSW's letter to Minister for Planning & Public Spaces 4 November 2020 specifically indicated the sector's strong opposition to reforms allowing a new class of appeals for rezoning applications.</p>	<p>In December 2020 the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces responded to LGNSW's 4 November 2020 letter, acknowledging LGNSW's 'active participation' in DPIE working groups on proposed reforms allowing a new class of appeals and separate engagement with LGNSW CE.</p>

<p>review the Accelerated Planning Program, the Planning Reform Action Plan, and 2020 changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, the Independent Planning Commission, and Local and Regional Planning Panels and take immediate steps to ensure that even in times of crisis, planning approvals consider the impact of development on the environment, local communities and neighbouring residents.</p> <p>2. Expresses its opposition to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the 2020 changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act which grant the Minister unprecedented powers to override planning decisions made by local councils, Planning Panels and the Independent Planning Commission; a. the increase in the referral threshold of the Independent Planning Commission which significantly reduces the ability of communities to object to contentious developments; a. reforms that will allow a new class of appeals for rezoning applications making it easier for developers to significantly change the character of local areas; i. the NSW Government’s Planning Acceleration Program which may deprive communities of the opportunity to have reasonable input into major developments; and ii. changes to Local Planning Panels that require panels to hold meetings in public only where a development application has attracted 10 or more unique submissions. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Wollongong City and Wingecarribee Shire Councils.</i></p>	<p>LGNSW has expressed opposition and asked DPIE for details on how the new appeals process would assist councils, in the following forums:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 Oct 2020 - Participation in DPIE Working Group with councils • 16 Nov 2020 - Participation in DPIE Working Group with councils • 2 December 2020 – LGNSW raised concerns at fortnightly LGNSW/SDPIE meeting • 9 December 2020 - Participation in DPIE Working Group with councils • 14 December 2020 - LGNSW Chief Executive met with DPIE. 	
<p>59 Penrith City Council - Review the diminishing powers of Councillors</p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates for all planning powers to be returned to councils, and also specifically advocates the return of the power of determination of development applications with a dollar value of less than \$5 million, to local councils in the Sydney and Wollongong areas.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>60 Mosman Municipal Council - Changes to Local Planning Assessment Panels</p> <p>That Local Government NSW continues to oppose mandatory planning panels, but while they exist, advocate for the NSW Government to allow for councils to establish their own thresholds for matters to be referred to the Panel, and processes for public determination of matters and remove the expectation that panel chairs can direct council on development applications timing.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	

<p>61 Central Coast Council - Local Planning Panels That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reaffirms its position that “the establishment and role of Local Planning Panels (LPPs) to remain a decision of the council – adoption of such independent panels by councils should be voluntary not mandatory”. 2. Makes representation to the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and the Premier of NSW, to express its concern in relation to the change to the operations of NSW Planning Panels for the reasons noted below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. requiring Panels to make determinations within 2 weeks of being provided an assessment report ii. provides no flexibility in scheduling where a Panel has a significant number of proposals for determination. iii. this could reduce the Panel’s ability to apply proper due diligence to each case or obtain expert opinion. iv. changes to the system of referrals of matters to LPPs may increase the risk of corruption v. allowing, at the Chair’s discretion, applicants to attend a briefing, along with council staff, could remove the Panel’s independence. The Panels were set up to be independent of the internal workings of councils, not working with them and applicants vi. the setting of timeframes to finalise determinations may impose undue pressure on councils. vii. removing the requirement for modification to go back to the Panel will encourage ongoing modification instead of the community getting what is exhibited in the first place. viii. the inclusions of “targets” will put an emphasis on pushing approvals through rather than due diligence in assessment. ix. the changes impose unreasonable and unrealistic demands on councils that require additional resourcing that is not funded. x. the changes weaken planning processes, the integrity of the planning system and community confidence in planning. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP • Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP 	
<p>62 Randwick City Council - Review of housing supply targets That Local Government NSW makes an urgent request to the NSW Planning Minister to consider the findings of the Federal Government’s National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation (NHFIC) report and consider the projected decreases in population growth and housing demand brought about the COVID-19 pandemic when planning for housing growth in NSW.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>63 Bayside Council - Proposed State Environmental Planning Policy - Housing Diversity</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	

<p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcomes the proposed State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) - Housing Diversity that is being considered by NSW Government as set out in the Explanation of Intended Effects (EIE); and 2. Advocates for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. support be provided for the introduction of new definitions as set out in the EIE for build to-rent, co-living and student housing. b. support be provided to remove the requirement for boarding houses to be mandated within the R2 Low Density Residential Zone, to amend the floor space ratio (FSR) bonus for boarding house development to a standard 20% and to include a requirement that boarding house developments are affordable. c. that build-to-rent not be permissible in the B3 Business Core and that strata subdivision of build-to-rent be prohibited in perpetuity in all zones. d. that the development standards in a Local Environmental Plan prevail to the extent of any inconsistency with the SEPP. e. that the Apartment Design Guide (ADG) apply to build-to-rent, co-living, boarding houses and student housing. 3. Advocates to the NSW Government to remove the provisions from the proposed Housing Diversity SEPP, as outlined in the Explanation of Intended Effect (EIE), that seek to increase the Land and Housing Corporation's powers to self-assess their development applications, and those that seek to amend the current requirements for designating a Land and Housing Corporation major project as state significant development (SSD). <p><i>This issue was also raised by City of Parramatta Council.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>64 Mosman Municipal Council – Payments to council Contribution Plans by developers</p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to urgently review the decision to allow the deferral of payments for local council Contributions Plans by developers.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Lane Cove Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP <p>LGNSW's letter to Minister for Planning & Public Spaces on 24 December 2020 responding to NSW Productivity Commissioner's recommendations for Review of Infrastructure Contributions to ensure that the views of local government inform the Government's response.</p>	
<p>65 Willoughby City Council - Developer contributions</p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the use of "value capture" as a means of allowing councils to apply a portion of the value uplift gained from changes in planning controls to the provision of public infrastructure for the benefit of the wider local community. 2. Support the removal of the cap on Developer Contributions as specified in 6.8 of LGNSW Policy Platform. 3. Advise DPIE that if a cap on Developer Contributions is to be applied and restricted to the options outlined in Improving the review of Local Infrastructure Contributions Plans – 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP <p>LGNSW's letter to Minister for Planning & Public Spaces on 24 December 2020 responding to NSW Productivity Commissioner's recommendations for Review of Infrastructure Contributions to ensure that the views of local government inform the Government's response.</p>	

<p>Discussion Paper (April 2020), Option 3 is the supported approach being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> implement one single threshold of \$45,000 for all Section 7.11 contributions before the IPART review comes into play. 		
<p>66 Blacktown City Council - Time taken to review Section 7.11 contribution plans That Local Government NSW urgently calls on the NSW Government to reduce the process time taken to review Section 7.11 contributions plans.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP <p>LGNSW's letter to Minister for Planning & Public Spaces on 24 December 2020 responding to NSW Productivity Commissioner's recommendations for Review of Infrastructure Contributions to ensure that the views of local government inform the Government's response.</p>	
<p>67 Lismore City Council - Local Activation Precincts That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the establishment of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a \$10 million (minimum) to be allocated to a 'Business Ready Fund' to support the development of the Local Activation Precincts (LAP) initiative across regional NSW; strong planning agency involvement through undertaking detailed land use, master and infrastructure planning within an LGA, with the possibility of joint procurement of studies in collocated sites; and an LAP Project Control Group that must include local government representatives to ensure collective decision-making. Requests the NSW Government to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> commit to 2 rounds of the LAP program (total of 8 LAPs); commit to the establishment of LAPs in regional cities only for the first 2 rounds; round one being an ongoing transparent assessment, at key milestones suggest communiqué (for every part of the implementation process); round two being initiated again at implementation Stage 7 (approvals stage of the Government's process) of first round; establish LAPs based on a local government area's endowments to attract major employers, drive local economies and create a diverse range of local jobs by working with local council; ensure any LAP sites selected have a process to identify if the connecting road will need reclassification (as per regional roads panel); and ensure that adequate engagement is undertaken across agencies to facilitate delivery of outcomes as quickly as possible. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	

<p>68 Federation Council - Funding for strategic land use planning That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to develop a strategy that would create a smaller scale version of the Special Activation Precincts to enable smaller towns to attract infrastructure funding to enable larger scale industrial subdivisions to occur to generate further employment/business.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	
<p>69 City of Canterbury-Bankstown - Liveable Housing Design Guidelines That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government and Federal Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support the inclusion of the Liveable Housing Design Guidelines in planning and building rules. Develop a search engine for dwellings certified as complying with the Liveable Housing Design Guidelines, and to make this information available at the point of sale. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians, Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck (federal) Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, the Hon. Gareth Ward MP Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP 	<p>Response received from Minister Hunt on 25 February, referring to the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) with regards to adaptable housing and that the ABCB is responsible for the development of the National Construction Code. The response also mentioned Home Care Packages and that they could be used for minor maintenance and modifications. The Minister did not respond to the development of a search engine for certified dwellings.</p>
<p>70 Nambucca Valley Council - Unlawful Development That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to amend:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Part 15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 to include a provision which enables a fee to be charged for a development application which seeks approval for the use of an unauthorised development that is at least the combined development application and certification work fees that would be payable for the same development if it had been commenced lawfully. Section 7.12 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to enable a condition to be imposed within a development consent that requires the applicant to pay a levy of the percentage of the value of the unauthorised development which the consent permits the continued use of. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	
<p>71 Wollongong City Council - Reclassifications of council owned land Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Minister for Local Government to request that the reclassification of council owned land be delegated to council for determination and finalisation except when seven or more objections have been received during the exhibition of the proposed reclassification.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>72 Shoalhaven City Council - Public housing redevelopment as economic stimulus That Local Government calls upon the NSW Government to redevelop old existing public housing stock to address current housing shortages and to act as economic stimulus for the regions.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Water, Property and Housing, the Hon. Melinda Pavey MP <p>LGNSW called for investment in social and affordable housing in its November 2020 NSW Budget submission.</p>	
<p>73 Liverpool City Council - Sustainable housing development That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to amend the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) to provide more discretion for Councils to amend a SEPP when applying it in their Local Government Area.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	

<p>74 Wollondilly Shire Council - SEPP amendments to address farm shed loophole</p> <p>That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to amend the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 to ensure that large scale earthworks on rural properties cannot be undertaken without a full development assessment process to properly consider and condition potential environmental, social and traffic impacts.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	
<p>75 City of Parramatta - Statewide Planning Portal</p> <p>That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to consider and implement new options for NSW councils to notify the public, enhancing efficiency and ensuring consistency across councils.</p> <p>Further, that this include advocating for the introduction of a state-wide notification website to ensure all information that is required to be advertised by councils, local and state planning panels, including information formerly required to be advertised in print media, can be found in one centralised location.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Minister for Customer Service, the Hon Victor Dominello MP <p>LGNSW meeting with DPIE (Gino Cavallaro) 17 March 2021 to discuss issues.</p>	<p>February 2021 – Response received from Minister Dominello acknowledging LGNSW’s concerns and supporting better information systems but noting that responsibility for the Planning Portal sits with Minister Stokes. Minister Dominello has asked his Department to contact DPIE to see if they can provide support on this matter.</p>
<p>76 Lake Macquarie City Council - Integration platform for Planning Portal</p> <p>That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to fund the development and implementation of integration platforms between the NSW Government Planning Portal and local government document management and application systems.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Minister for Customer Service, the Hon Victor Dominello MP <p>LGNSW meeting with DPIE (Gino Cavallaro) 17 March 2021 to discuss issues, particularly for regional councils.</p>	<p>February 2021 – Response received from Minister Dominello acknowledging LGNSW’s concerns and supporting better information systems but noting that responsibility for the Planning Portal sits with Minister Stokes. Minister Dominello has asked his Department to contact DPIE to see if they can provide support on this matter.</p> <p>March 2021 – formal notification/advice is pending about likely financial support to assist regional councils with integrating their systems with ePlanning.</p>
<p>77 Hornsby Shire Council - Amendment to Clause 263 of the EP&A Regulation 2000</p> <p>That clause 263 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 be amended to include the following additional clause (7) - A council may impose a compliance levy of 0.2% of the Capital Investment Value of a proposed development with a minimum levy of \$75 payable on all development and complying development applications upon lodgement of an application in the NSW planning portal.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	
<p>78 MidCoast Council - Manufactured Homes Estate definition</p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to add the definition of a “Manufactured Home Estate” in the Standard Instrument – Principal Local Environmental Plan.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	
<p>79 Singleton Council - SSD and/or SSI assessment process</p> <p>That Local Government NSW lobbies the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to support local councils in the provision of advice into the State Significant Development (SSD) and/or State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) assessment process through the:</p> <p>a. Inclusion of fees for the reasonable costs incurred by a council for the review of SSD and SSI in the schedule of fees listed in Part 15, Division 1AA and/or Division 2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000; and</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP <p>LGNSW made a submission to the Rapid Assessment Framework discussion paper.</p>	<p>SSD approval process is being reviewed by DPIE as part of its Rapid Assessment Framework. LGNSW has made a submission to this reform.</p>

<p>b. Establishment of a council inter-agency committee to assist and support local councils in the provision of advice into the assessment process.</p>		
<p>80 Federation Council - Essential Energy and Origin Energy That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to intervene and ensure more effective mechanisms exist to achieve more timely approvals and works from both Origin and Essential Energy to support developments.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	
<p>81 Shellharbour City Council - Ability for councils to mandate BASIX provisions That Local Government NSW asks for the NSW Government to enact changes to BASIX which would allow councils to increase certain BASIX provisions, determined by the council, in new developments. Such provisions may include shading over west-facing windows, solar panels and full in-wall and ceiling insulation. <i>This issue was also raised by Rous County Council.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 Energy, Environment and Science (EES) liaison meeting.</p>	
<p>82 City of Parramatta - Inclusive community engagement for development applications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to take an inclusive consultation and engagement approach with the community, particularly when seeking submissions on Development Applications which currently requires a written submission be made. Further, that Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to encourage councils to investigate technological options to receive submissions to proposals and plans placed on public exhibition from people with disability by way of audio recording or transcription recording. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, the Hon. Gareth Ward MP 	
<p>83 Leeton Shire Council - Health services in rural, regional and remote NSW That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advocates for the Local Health Advisory Committee (LHAC) model to be revised to give local residents a far greater say in the scope and delivery of health services in their local communities. Pursues a formal MOU with NSW Health and Primary Health Networks which provides the basis for collaboration between councils and NSW Health and Primary Health Networks. Makes a submission to the Inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Gilgandra Shire Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP (federal) Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP <p>LGNSW made a submission to the Parliamentary inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW.</p> <p>Feedback was received from more than 20 councils in developing this submission, building on existing LGNSW policy positions.</p> <p>Following the Board's request, LGNSW will be writing to all regional councils seeking input on the direct costs incurred by councils to attract and retain healthcare professionals to their region.</p> <p>Improving rural and regional health services was identified as a key LGNSW 2021 advocacy priority. LGNSW is developing an Advocacy Plan, noting future actions of the organisation and key stakeholders to engage.</p>	<p>16 March 2021 - Minister Coulton announced expansion of federal government's Remote Vocational Training Scheme (RVTS) targeted recruitment pilot to new locations around the country. The aim of the RVTS is to support medical practitioners to access education and training while continuing to provide medical services to their community. The three locations for NSW are Cobar, Lake Cargelligo and Dareton (Aboriginal Medical Service).</p>

<p>84 Leeton Shire Council - NSW Health to retain public ownership of aged care facilities That Local Government NSW calls for NSW Health to retain ownership of its National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and State owned aged care facilities.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP <p>LGNSW included this matter in its submission to the Parliamentary inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW.</p>	
<p>85 Lake Macquarie City Council - COVID-19 recovery: investing in night-time economy That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accelerate the delivery of the Greater Sydney 24-hour Strategy, Develop a Regional NSW Night-Time Economy Strategy, including toolkits and resources to support councils, Establish a new role of Parliamentary Secretary for the night-time economy, and Create a Night-Time Economy Advisory Panel with membership from local government and industries to support the work of the Parliamentary Secretary. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP <p>Following the release of the Greater Sydney 24 Hour Strategy, the Government appointed a 24 Hour Economy Commissioner. The Commissioner attended the February meeting of the NSW Night Time Economy Committee where LGNSW and councils re-iterated that a focus beyond Greater Sydney is needed.</p>	<p>In February 2021 the NSW Government appointed a 24 Hour Economy Commissioner to coordinate and champion the Night Time Economy Strategy.</p>
<p>86 Wagga Wagga City Council - Accessible athletics fields That Local Government NSW advocates to State and Federal Governments to improve athletics facilities to increase accessibility and involvement for participants with a disability.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Sport, Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck (federal) A/ Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors & Veterans, the Hon. Geoff Lee MP 	<p>Response received from Minister Lee on 1 March. The Minister notes he is aware of the needs of councils and encourages them to seek project funding though the Regional Sports Facility Fund which includes a focus on universally designed facilities for all. A second round of the funding will open later in 2021.</p> <p>Response received from Minister Colbeck on 19 February. Minister Colbeck advised of the financial investment by the federal government in several sports facility developments, including a number of community facilities that provide greater access for all. The Minister advised he will continue to examine a more collaborative model of sports infrastructure funding alongside other spheres of government.</p>
<p>87 Willoughby City Council - Disabled parking permits That Local Government NSW advocates to NSW Government seeking a reform of the eligibility criteria used by medical professionals to issue disabled parking permits.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP 	
<p>88 Gwydir Shire Council - Amendment to Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to amend the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Permit land vested in an Aboriginal Land Council (ALC) to be appropriated or resumed with the approval of the ALC and where the Chief Executive Officer of the NSW ALC has issued a dealing approval certificate. Lower the voting threshold in section 42G (5) for Local Aboriginal Land Councils to approve a land dealing for public projects proposed by the NSW Government or a local council, from “not less than 80%” to “not less than 50%” of the voting members of the ALC present at the meeting. Consider alternatives to Native Title restrictions on certificates of title on land granted under the Aboriginal 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts, the Hon. Don Harwin MLC <p>Raised in a meeting with the NSW Audit Office (preparing for review of Land Claims) in March 2021.</p>	

<p>Land Rights Act 1983 where there is evidence that native title over the land has been extinguished.</p>		
<p>89 Tenterfield Shire Council - Increased migration to regional areas That Local Government NSW supports Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees in lobbying the NSW Government and others to develop a funded business case for measures to increase migration from metropolitan and overseas locations to inland regional communities, where latent infrastructure capacities, employment opportunities, quality of life and reduced costs of living remain undervalued in target markets.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Industry and Trade, the Hon John Barilaro MP 	
<p>90 Shoalhaven City Council - Long walking tourism in NSW National Parks That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW State Government to establish and fund low-impact long walks as tourist attractions in our NSW National Parks.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP 	<p>January 2021 – The NSW Government announced \$257 million to deliver 170 new and improved community infrastructure projects across the national parks in NSW. This includes more than 750 kilometres of new and upgraded walking tracks, upgrades to 33 campgrounds and 61 new and improved picnic areas.</p> <p>LGNSW will continue advocating for funding for new long walks in particular.</p>
<p>91 Liverpool City Council - Gaming and liquor licence applications That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advocates to the NSW Government for increased local government decision making in gaming machine provisions, including the changed Local Impact Assessment Band that allows moving of or increase of poker machines within the respective local government areas; Advocates to the NSW Government for local government's Social Impact Assessments to be prioritised in considerations relating to gaming machine provisions and determination of the band assessment's allocations; and Considers a policy position, where public interest is in the forefront of all such decisions, including investigating measures of non-association with alcohol and gaming industries. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Customer Service, the Hon Victor Dominello MP 	<p>February 2021 – Response received from Minister Dominello recognising the impact gambling can have on communities and notes NSW Government past actions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the local impact assessment scheme Issue guidelines for late night gaming applications Make gaming machine data more accessible. <p>Minister Dominello's response also welcomes local government contributions to gaming machine decisions "through consistent, detailed and evidence-based submissions", noting the valuable insight and data provided by councils about their communities are critical for good decision making.</p>
<p>92 Hawkesbury City Council - Coercive control That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes the alarming increase in the prevalence of domestic abuse in NSW, including as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the devastating impact this has on individuals and communities. Recognises that coercive control is a form of domestic abuse but that it is not currently a criminal offence under NSW law. Contacts the NSW Premier and NSW Attorney General calling for the criminalisation of coercive control in NSW, in line with The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act, currently considered the best-practice example of criminalising psychological, emotional and financial abuse as forms of domestic abuse. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, the Hon. Mark Speakman MP 	<p>The Joint Select Committee on Coercive Control was established on 21 October 2020. The Inquiry received 145 submissions and held 3 hearings in February 2021. LGNSW will monitor for the release of the report from the Committee and advocate to government to adopt the relevant recommendations in line with this conference resolution.</p> <p>Separate to the Inquiry, two proposed Bills have been introduced to the NSW Parliament:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Amendment (Coercive Control—Preethi's Law) Bill 2020 was introduced on the 22 September 2020 but on 18 March 2021 was negated in a vote of parliament, while the parliamentary inquiry is ongoing. The Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Amendment (Coercive and Controlling Behaviour) Bill 2020 was introduced to the upper house of NSW Parliament on 18 November 2020 and has its first and second reading that day. The Bill has been adjourned and is now awaiting debate after the 2nd reading speech. LGNSW will monitor the progress of this Bill and update members on legislative changes.

<p>93 City of Parramatta - Family and domestic violence prevention resources</p> <p>That Local Government NSW supports the current advocacy of the Australian Local Government Association and Domestic Violence NSW by seeking:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A State or Federal funded Domestic Violence Officer, a role which currently exists in the local government associations in Victoria and Queensland; and Funding and resources to assist councils with prevention of violence initiatives and the implementation of the newly released national Local Government Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Toolkit. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Cumberland City Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for the Families and Social Services, Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston (federal) Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, the Hon. Mark Speakman MP <p>LGNSW, with ALGA, and the other local government associations in the states and territories met with Our Watch in January 2021, and will meet every 2 months. Our Watch is the national policy organisation for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children.</p> <p>At meetings with Our Watch, LGNSW has re-iterated the need for resources and dedicated domestic violence prevention officers in the LG associations. Our Watch will continue meeting with the LG associations as it implements its Workforce Development Plan between September 2020 and June 2022. The aim of the plan is to create workforces in Australian that undertake prevention activities to prevent violence against women.</p>	
<p>94 Hawkesbury City Council - Sex work</p> <p>That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that NSW decriminalised sex work 25 years ago. Decriminalisation in 1995 resulted in improved work safety, extremely low rates of HIV/STIs, increased transparency and better access to justice, health and services for sex workers. Notes that sex workers still face discrimination and harassment on the basis of their occupation. Acknowledges that the 2015 NSW Select Committee on the Regulation of Brothels recommended that NSW Health consult with Local Government NSW about any additional assistance, such as educational briefings, that it could give councils to assist them to make sound development assessment decisions around sex services premises from a public health perspective, and that the NSW Government supported that recommendation. Local Government NSW therefore requests that NSW Health provides these education briefings to Councillors in both the current and each subsequent council term. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP 	<p>In March 2021, the NSW Ministry of Health contacted LGNSW to seek further information on how it could best assist councils in response to this conference resolution. LGNSW advocated for the Ministry of Health to release a council specific briefing document that could be shared with our members regarding development assessment decisions around sex services, and suggested that Ministry of Health officers could be made available to brief council decision makers when required.</p>
<p>95 Snowy Valleys Council - Local government's role in children's & youth services</p> <p>Following the much-welcomed April funding package from the NSW Government of \$82 million for 260 council-run early childhood education and care (ECEC) services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; that Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advocates to the NSW Government to continue to recognise the essential role of local government in early childhood education and care, and fund it accordingly, particularly as council-run services often cater to vulnerable, low-income families, regional and rural communities and children with disability; and Enhances Local Government NSW's Strong and Inclusive Communities Position Statement, and the Services in Rural 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, the Hon. Sarah Mitchell MLC 	

<p>Communities Position Statement, by including the recognition that local government is an essential provider of services to young people 0–24 years old.</p> <p><i>This issue was also raised by Fairfield City Council.</i></p>		
<p>96 Lake Macquarie City Council - Partnership with Headspace That Local Government NSW calls on the State and Federal Governments to investigate and explore a partnership between local government and Headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation to ensure young people in rural, remote, isolated and public transport-deprived areas gain access to appropriate and relevant youth mental health services.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Health, the Hon. Greg Hunt MP (federal) Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women, the Hon. Bronwyn Taylor MP 	<p>Response received from Minister Hunt on 25 February, noting Headspace as a trusted model of care, and that Primary Health Networks (PHN) are funded by the Federal Dept of Health to commission lead agencies to operate the Headspace network of services. Minister Hunt notes the establishment of the new Headspace satellite service in Wyong, expected to open later in 2021, through the Hunter New England and Central Coast (HNECC) PHN.</p>
<p>97 Tamworth Regional Council - Medicare provider numbers That Local Government NSW makes appropriate representations to the State and Federal Government Health Ministers to ensure the current review of the National Medical Workforce Strategy, and in particular how a “District of Workforce Shortage” is determined when allocating Medicare provider numbers, provides flexibility and opportunities for medical practitioners and specialists to relocate to regional and rural communities so that they are not disadvantaged in the delivery of adequate and essential medical services.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Health, the Hon. Greg Hunt MP (federal) Minister for Regional Services, Decentralisation and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP (federal) Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP <p>LGNSW made a submission to the Parliamentary inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote NSW.</p> <p>Feedback was received from more than 20 councils in developing this submission, building on existing LGNSW policy positions.</p> <p>Following the Board’s request, LGNSW will be writing to all regional councils seeking input on the direct costs incurred by councils to attract and retain healthcare professionals to their region.</p> <p>Improving rural and regional health services was identified as a key LGNSW 2021 advocacy priority. LGNSW is developing an Advocacy Plan, noting future actions of the organisation and key stakeholders to engage.</p>	<p>Response received from Minister Hunt on 25 February. Minister Hunt notes areas with District Workforce Shortages (DWS) are determined by Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) population data to determine where medical specialists with location restrictions can work, and whether an area is serviced by more or less than the national average of doctors from a particular speciality. Minister Hunt notes the DWS is updated annually and the next update is scheduled for 1 July 2021.</p>
<p>98 Liverpool City Council - Fast track major rail projects That Local Government NSW advocates to the State Government to provide funding and fast track major rail projects to support job creation, economic growth and stimulate urban renewal in key areas across the State.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon. Paul Toole MP Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP 	
<p>99 Liverpool City Council - Tolls in NSW That Local Government NSW advocates to the State Government for a toll-free period on all new toll roads, and the removal of tolls, or a cash back scheme or other measures on other key toll roads such as the M5 East, to alleviate the financial burden on residents and other road users that use these roads.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP 	
<p>100 Blacktown City Council - Public road dedication free of cost That Local Government NSW urgently calls on the NSW Government to amend the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to allow for the requirement of public road dedication free of cost as a condition of consent.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Rob Stokes MP 	

<p>103 Bayside Council - Cashless metered parking schemes That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to enable councils to establish and operate metered parking schemes for any road within its area of operations without the need to facilitate the payment of fees for parking in cash (notes or coins, or both).</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP Minister for Customer Service, the Hon Victor Dominello MP 	<p>February 2021 - Response from Minister Dominello noting his support for digital solutions including those that aim to gradually shift customers to digital payment methods, but advising he understands there are no plans to remove cash payments for parking at this time and that the relevant legislation sits within the portfolio of Minister Constance.</p>
<p>104 Tenterfield Shire Council - Funding to correct historical errors in road mapping That Local Government NSW advocates to the State and Federal Governments for grant funding to assist councils deal with the costs incurred in correcting historical errors in mapping of actual roads so that ratepayers do not have to meet these costs.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon. Paul Toole MP Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP 	
<p>105 Blue Mountains City Council - Road safety: use of speed zones That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government and Transport for NSW to review the criteria for speed zones of less than 50km to include a category for local roads that are shared by pedestrians and other vulnerable road users due to design and topography of these roads. <i>This issue was also raised by Liverpool City Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, the Hon. Paul Toole MP Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Andrew Constance MP 	
<p>108 Albury City Council - Personal accident insurance cover for elected representatives That: 1. Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Local Government to amend the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) to require all councils, county councils and joint organisations to have personal accident insurance cover for their elected representatives whilst performing their functions and responsibilities as a councillor in good faith and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW); and 2. The insurance cover referred to in 1 above be equivalent to the level of insurance cover that employees receive under the NSW workers' compensation legislation. <i>This issue was also raised by Lismore City Council.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>109 Gunnedah Shire Council - Rural apprenticeships That Local Government NSW calls upon the Federal Government to mandate that: a. A percentage no less than 20% of funds committed to NSW TAFE support rural Institutes to allow apprenticeship courses to be run with no minimum student requirements; and b. NSW TAFE allows composite classes within apprenticeship courses to be run in rural institutes. <i>This issue was also raised by Waverley Council.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Minister for Decentralisation and Regional Education, the Hon Andrew Gee MP Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, the Hon. Geoff Lee MP 	
<p>110 Bourke Shire Council - Continuing Professional Development That Local Government NSW make representations to the various professional bodies relating to local government employees who are required to obtain Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points, to consider the difficulties</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engineers Australia Association of Professional Engineers Australia NSW Fair Trading (for Building Surveyors) Planning Institute of Australia 	

<p>encountered by rural and remote council employees in attending accreditation courses and make provision for an allowance for travelling when allocating points.</p>		
<p>111 Bourke Shire Council - Risk and Internal Audit Committees for councils In order to support regional councils, that Local Government NSW calls on the Office of Local Government to review the guidelines to reduce the period of exclusion for both former elected members and staff from participating in Risk and Internal Audit Committees for councils.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>112 City of Ryde - LGNSW - Armidale Council A. That this Local Government NSW conference calls on the Minister to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. reinstate the elected Councillors of Armidale Regional Council (ARC) at the end of their six month suspension and let the community decide at the September 2021 elections who should represent them; ii. recognise that, as happens in Ryde, Councillors must have access to information to enable them to perform their functions as elected members of the governing body, and calls on the Minister to strengthen the requirement in the Act for General Managers to provide information to Councillors and so avoid the problems that allegedly happened in Armidale; and iii. to ensure that the Office of Local Government has adequate resources to assist local councils if they encounter serious problems and respond to complaints in a timely manner. <p>B. That the conference acknowledges and thanks the Minister for her announcement this morning to reinstate the Armidale councillors before Christmas 2020.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	<p>Armidale Regional Council councillors were re-instated on 12 December.</p>
<p>113 Central Coast Council - NSW ICAC and Federal anti-corruption body That Local Government NSW: a</p> <p>A. Campaigns for the NSW Government to restore funding and ensure the independence of the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). The campaign would include, but not be limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. building alliances with key stakeholders and peak bodies to develop a position statement and build a public campaign II. providing resources to local councils to build grassroots support for the campaign. <p>B. Advocates through the Australian Local Government Association for the Federal Government to establish an independent anti-corruption body with powers similar to those of the NSW ICAC.</p>	<p>LGNSW to develop a campaign.</p> <p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Local Government Association • Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP 	

<p>114 The Hills Shire Council - Privacy protection of Councillors That Local Government NSW makes representations to the Local Government Minister and Office of Local Government on behalf of Councillors concerning protection in Councillors' employment, businesses and private lives. Disclosure requirements need to be reviewed to support appropriate privacy protections, balanced with transparency requirements. The minister and department should defend the reputation of Councillors' profession, and stand for the interests of Councillors, rather than against them.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Office of Local Government 	
<p>115 Kyogle Council - Rural Ministerial Advisory Committee That Local Government lobbies the NSW Government to establish a rural Ministerial Advisory Committee to provide policy advice on, and make representations on behalf of, rural communities and the impacts of government decision making on those communities and that the committee be made up of representatives from rural regions across the State.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW Industry and Trade, the Hon John Barilaro MP 	
<p>116 Wagga Wagga City Council - Code of Conduct complaints That Local Government NSW advocates to the Minister for Local Government and the Office of Local Government to conduct a review into the operation of investigation of Code of Conduct complaints including allocation of more resources from the NSW Government to address code of conduct complaints.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Office of Local Government 	
<p>117 Shoalhaven City Council - Local government improvement summit That the NSW Government holds a summit on local government to discuss and formulate solutions to issues which stakeholders see as a hindrance to good functions of local government.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	
<p>118 Central Coast Council - Legislative Reform That Local Government NSW actively campaigns for legislative reform that would:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make it an offence for a person to intentionally or recklessly threaten or incite violence towards any persons listed in (b) (i) below, in the exercise of any function under the Local Government Act or any other Act or any regulation conferring functions on a council. Make it an offence for a person to publish content that reasonable persons would regard as being, in all the circumstances, intimidating, menacing, harassing or offensive towards any of the following in the exercise of any function under the Local Government Act or any other Act or any regulation conferring functions on a council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Minister the Departmental Chief Executive a person authorised under section 746 an auditor appointed under Part 3 of Chapter 13 a council a councillor an administrator of a council appointed under this Act an employee of a council 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP Attorney General, the Hon. Mark Speakman MP 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a police officer • a person duly authorised to perform the function for the purposes of the Act or regulation concerned. <p>c. Impose, in addition to maximum penalties as provided in similar legislation e.g. Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007, a further penalty to the effect that anyone convicted of such an offence be disqualified from holding public office as per s 275 of the Local Government Act 1993.</p>		
<p>119 Georges River Council - Council meeting minutes That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Office of Local Government and the Minister for Local Government to amend the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW to require councils to publish unconfirmed minutes of council and committee meetings to provide suitable legal protection to councils to act on decisions without breaching other legislation and to allow the public to view the decisions of council in writing in a timely manner.</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP • Office of Local Government 	
<p>120 Orange City Council - Working With Children and Police checks for elected members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to introduce Working with Children and Police checks for elected members. 2. That reference is made to the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations developed by the Australian Human Rights Commission which provide a nationally consistent approach to embedding child safe cultures within organisations that engage with children. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP • Office of Local Government 	
<p>121 Albury City Council - Attendance at Council meetings by audio-visual link That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to amend the Model Code of Meeting practice for Local Councils in NSW to permit attendance and participation of councillors at council meetings and at meetings of committees of council by audio-visual link. <i>This issue was also raised by Wagga Wagga City, Waverley and Orange City Councils.</i></p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP • Office of Local Government 	<p>In March 2021 OLG released a consultation paper proposing a continuation of arrangements to allow for remote attendance by councillors at council meetings. LGNSW is drafting a submission in response to this consultation.</p>
<p>123 Lane Cove Council - Noise complaints generated from park activities That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government for the inclusion of specific provisions in the Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2008 which stipulates that general activities within a park cannot be deemed 'intrusive' or 'offensive' during certain hours of the day.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP 	
<p>124 Bellingen Shire Council - Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020 That Local Government NSW expresses its concerns to the NSW Government regarding;</p>	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon Adam Marshall MP • Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP 	<p>Email received 15/3/21 from the Portfolio Committee No.7 - Planning and Environment that the scheduled hearings were cancelled and that in the coming weeks the committee will give further consideration to the future of the inquiry and will provide an update in due course.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of transparency and prior consultation that has characterised the introduction of the Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020; The removal of the legal ability of councils to make considered local policy decisions regarding certain land uses within rural and environmental protection zones; and The adverse environmental impacts of the proposed legislation, in view of the findings of three recent reviews undertaken by the NSW Auditor General, the Natural Resources Commission and the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into koalas. 	<p>Additional to the letters to Adam Marshall and Matt Kean, LGNSW also wrote to Bronnie Taylor (who had carriage of the Bill in the LC), cc'ing John Graham, David Shoebridge, Mark Latham, Robert Borsak, Mark Pearson and Fred Nile.</p> <p>LGNSW also made a submission to the Portfolio Committee No. 7 Planning and Environment to its inquiry into the Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020.</p>	
<p>125 Bellingen Shire Council - Koala conservation That Local Government NSW supports the findings and recommendations of the NSW Koala population and habitat in NSW report and urges urgent action by the NSW Government particularly given finding 2 which indicates that given the scale of loss to koala populations across NSW as a result of the 2019-20 bushfires and without urgent government intervention to protect habitat and address all other threats, the koala will become extinct in NSW before 2050. <i>This issue was also raised by Liverpool City Council.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Discussed with DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting.</p> <p>LGNSW's letter to Minister Kean notes the LLS Amendment Bill's proposed changes that are likely to impact on koala habitat protection.</p> <p>LGNSW also made a submission to the Portfolio Committee No. 7 Planning and Environment to its inquiry into the Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020, which included 6 key issues of which three were directly in relation to koala management and/or protection.</p>	<p>Email received 15/3/21 from the Portfolio Committee No.7 - Planning and Environment that the scheduled hearings were cancelled and that in the coming weeks the committee will give further consideration to the future of the inquiry and will provide an update in due course.</p>
<p>126 Strathfield Council - Ausgrid – tree matters That Local Government NSW requests Ausgrid establishes a new liaison program between councils and Ausgrid where tree matters (in proximity to electrical assets) can be raised and dealt with properly and information on upcoming pruning activities conveyed.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>A letter has also been sent to Ausgrid seeking to re-establish a regular meeting and/or advisory system for councils.</p>	
<p>127 City of Canterbury-Bankstown - Funding for waterway maintenance on private land That Local Government NSW makes representations to the NSW Government requesting it identifies, or if absent, establishes a fund for residents to apply to for the purpose of improving or maintaining water quality in waterways that run through privately owned land then into public waterways in urban areas.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting.</p>	
<p>128 Gilgandra Shire Council - Impacts of the Biodiversity Offset Scheme That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide designated funding to support councils' offset costs associated with the Biodiversity Offset Scheme that may be prohibitive to new midsize development which can demonstrate a direct positive impact on population and job growth as well as diversification of regional economies.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting.</p>	
<p>129 Lachlan Shire Council - Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to undertake a review of the need to include exemptions in the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 for events and other minor development.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting.</p>	

<p>131 Cabonne Council - Flood mitigation That Local Government NSW advocates for the inclusion of a division within the Fisheries Management Act, providing flexibility and cooperation between local authorities and the Minister when considering flood mitigation and prevention works within townships and their localities.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon. Adam Marshall MP 	
<p>132 Inner West Council - Uranium mining ban in NSW must stay That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NSW councils oppose any move to lift the ban on uranium mining in NSW. Local Government NSW, on behalf of councils, writes to the NSW Premier and all MPs urging them to support sustainable and clean energy and jobs solutions. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP Leaders of parties in NSW Parliament and Independents encouraging them to share conference resolutions with their colleagues. 	
<p>133 Hawkesbury City Council - IPART Terms of Reference That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to include climate change considerations in approved terms of reference for investigations and reviews by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal pursuant to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP 	
<p>134 Lismore City Council - Landscape hydration That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise the importance of landscape hydration techniques in improving the hydration of our rural lands which lowers the impact of drought, reduces water loss from run off, and improves the ecology and environment of previously degraded rural lands. Recognise the role that local government can play in improving the environmental outcomes for our regions by partnering with farming bodies and land care groups to educate farmers and residents on methods of land regeneration including landscape hydration. Provide grants to local government which enables councils to offer landscape hydration technique training opportunities for farmers and land care groups in our community. 	<p>Letters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon. Matt Kean MP Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon Adam Marshall MP <p>Provided to DPIE at January 2021 EES liaison meeting.</p>	
<p>135 Hawkesbury River County Council - NSW Weeds Action Program administration That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Minister for Agriculture to urgently review the double handling of the NSW Weeds Action Program being undertaken by two NSW Government departments; NSW Primary Industries and Local Land Services, with a particular focus on the over burdensome reporting and auditing requirements applied to councils and County Councils.</p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon Adam Marshall MP 	
<p>136 Yass Valley Council - Weed management funding That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to increase the level of funding to local government to manage roadside weeds. <i>This issue was also raised by Snowy Valleys Council.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, the Hon Adam Marshall MP 	

<p>137 Randwick City Council - Global ban on the trade of wildlife That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognises that the demand for wild animals and wild animal products is a primary cause of the emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases such as COVID-19 and represents a severe risk to global health, and 2. Calls on the Federal Government to advocate for a global ban on the trade of wild animals and wild animal products. 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Foreign Affairs (Payne) 	
<p>139 Hawkesbury City Council - Ban puppy farms That Local Government NSW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. animal welfare and the care and control of companion animals are state responsibilities in NSW but that these responsibilities are largely met by local councils, b. unscrupulous breeding in puppy farms financially impacts on councils due to increased compliance costs and shelter, rehabilitation and rehoming costs, and c. puppy farms are cruel and inhumane. 2. Notes that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017 (Vic) prohibited the sale of breeders' puppies in pet shops and restricts the number of fertile female dogs kept by breeders in Victoria, b. Victoria's tougher regulations resulted in large-scale breeders indicating they are seeking sites in NSW to continue their activities, and c. there is significant community concern that puppy farms have moved their operations to NSW to avoid regulation and scrutiny. 3. Urges the NSW Government to strengthen NSW Legislation to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. transition pet shops to registered not-for-profit adoption centres to rehome dogs and puppies from approved rescue organisations and shelters, b. limit animals kept by breeders and owners, including by limiting numbers of fertile female dogs on premises, c. ensure breeder identifications numbers are required for all litters, including the removal of loopholes for "one-off litters", and d. instigate a common database and better co-ordination between enforcement agencies across jurisdictions. 4. Notes that euthanasia is a significant concern to councils and residents across NSW and is an animal welfare issue, and urges the NSW Government to act to reduce the rates of unwanted and abandoned animals by: 	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	

<p>a. funding free desexing programs and education programs for pet owners, especially in areas with high dumping rates, and</p> <p>b. supporting more “pet-friendly” rental accommodation.</p>		
<p>140 Liverpool City Council - Stray cats in urban areas That Local Government NSW advocates for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tighter restrictions on cat owners (including that all cats to be microchipped and desexed) to be included in the NSW Companion Animals Act 1998; 2. Council to be funded to provide services that identify stray cats that are not microchipped, nor desexed and found on the streets, to be microchipped, desexed and housed until rehomed; and 3. Changes to be made to Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 (NSW) to permit the release of cats under a Trap Neuter Return Program. <p><i>This issue was also raised by Hornsby Shire and Central Coast Councils.</i></p>	<p>Letter to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shelley Hancock MP 	