

Councillor Learning and Development Governance Group – Interim Charter

Mission

The Governance Group will work collaboratively across local government to develop and implement a Learning and Development Framework (the Framework) for local government that:

- supports councillors to develop the skills and capabilities required to perform their functions individually and collectively; and
- supports elected and non-elected officials to understand and promote the principles of good governance.

Success is defined as sustaining a well-developed Framework that meets the needs of all councillors and helps them to carry out their role as councillor. Councillors will understand the value and importance of learning and development to fulfil their role and they engage in the learning opportunities available to them.

The ongoing development and maintenance of the Framework will be supported by the local government sector and the State Government. The roles and responsibilities of all parties will be clearly articulated through the development of the Framework. The delivery of the Framework will include a broad range of providers.

Priorities for 2023

By 31 December 2023, the Governance Group will:

1. promote the importance and value of councillor learning and development;
2. develop and implement a Framework that is inclusive and accessible in design and meets the needs of participants;
 - Objectives 1 and 2 will be measured through councillor feedback and uptake of learning opportunities.
3. establish arrangements to ensure that the ongoing implementation of the Framework is financially and operationally sustainable;
 - this will be measured by identifying ongoing financial support and ownership for responsibility of the whole or parts of the Framework.
4. support the ongoing development of the Framework through evaluation and continuous improvement;
 - this will be achieved by having a robust evaluation framework in place.

The Framework is supported by the local government sector, the State Government and other education/regulatory organisations and all parties accept their responsibilities in promoting, owning or supporting the Framework to ensure it is sustainable both operationally and financially.

Membership

The Group will be composed of six members:

- one representative from the Office of Local Government (OLG) (Chair);
- one representative (Officer) from the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT);

- one council general manager;
- one council governance manager (or similar); and
- two councillors determined by the LGAT General Management Committee.

Meetings

It is the responsibility of the Chair to call meetings as required with the Secretariat to organise and provide information, resources, and briefs where relevant for meetings. A quorum of the Governance Group will be four members, inclusive of the Chair.

Reporting

The Governance Group will report regularly to the Premier's Local Government Council and to the sector through the LGAT's General Management Committee.

Support and Secretariat

The Secretariat support for the Governance Group will be provided by OLG on an interim basis, subject to the development of a sustainable resourcing model for the Framework. The Secretariat will provide advice and resources for the consideration of the Governance Group and record the decisions of meetings.