



Grants Review

Frequently asked questions

What is the Grants Review?

The Grants Review is a reform of the framework for grants provided to councils by the State.

When did the Grants Review commence?

The reform of grants commenced with an action in the 2016 State Infrastructure Plan (SIP) to review infrastructure grants programs to local government.

In early 2016 the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) made a submission to the government on the reform of state-local government grant programs.

In response to the SIP and the LGAQ submission, the Government completed a review of local government grant programs. This review confirmed the fragmented nature of grants programs, providing options and opportunities for improvement.

In September 2018 the Honourable Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs announced a Policy Position on Grants to Local Government. The policy position can be viewed on the Department's website – [Grants to Local Government Policy Position](#).

What is the current phase of the Grants Review?

The Department has commenced implementation planning.

What is the timing of the implementation planning phase?

It is anticipated the implementation planning phase will be completed in 2019.

What will be the outcome of the implementation planning phase?

The outcome of this phase will be an implementation plan to guide and outline the requirements to deliver on the [Grants to Local Government Policy Position](#).

Why change from the existing grants processes?

The review of local government grants programs identified four key outcomes:

- **Implement** an outcome focused grants model where grant programs with common objectives are managed consistently
- **Align** grant programs with State Government priorities and Council strategies and budget cycles
- **Reduce** red tape through streamlining the administration, monitoring and reporting of grant programs
- **Support** Councils across all stages of the grant program process, including necessary long-term planning.

The new grants model will improve and simplify the administration of grants, enabling councils to deliver essential infrastructure, facilities and services aligned with the priorities of Queensland communities.

What is the intent of the Grants Review?

The Government has committed to move to a simpler, clearer, more customer-focused grants framework which supports State priorities while being responsive to councils' needs.



What are the benefits of the new grants model?

The benefits of a new grants model include:

- reducing administrative burden
- a more simplified system
- alignment with key government priorities
- alignment with council's strategies and needs
- providing councils with greater funding certainty
- moving towards allocation-based funding for suitable grants

Will there be less grant funding in the future?

The Grants Review is not reviewing the current level of funding.

Who is conducting the review?

The Grants Review is being led by the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs, working with key stakeholders including councils, State agencies and the Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA), the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and the Local Government Finance Professionals (LGFP).

Is there an opportunity to provide feedback during the review?

Yes. We are currently working across the State to build on previous engagement with councils, agencies and other stakeholders to gain feedback on how we can create a simpler, clearer, more customer-focused grants model for local governments. We are seeking feedback on key elements of the policy position, including the operational model, program streams and ongoing support and training.

How can I provide feedback?

The [Grants Review Survey](#) opened on Monday 19 November and will close at 5pm on Friday 7 December 2018. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

How will the feedback from councils and key stakeholders be used for the Grants Review?

The feedback received will be reviewed and collated to inform the development of an implementation plan.

How can I find out more about the Grants Review?

Website: www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/grantsreview