

LGA analysis of State Budget 2021-22



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The LGA is pleased to provide analysis of the State Budget 2021-22 with a specific focus on its impact on the local government sector.

The State Budget 2021-22 has been brought down amidst a rapidly improving economy.

Whereas the 2020-21 State Budget was delivered during the COVID-19 induced recession, this year's State Budget has coincided with a low rate of unemployment, strong growth and strong business capital investment.

The State Budget Papers emphasise the job-creating effects of the State Government's \$4 billion stimulus package, announced last year during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, including its \$107 million contribution to the Local Government Infrastructure Partnerships Program.

But while acknowledging the effective role stimulus expenditures have performed in assisting economic recovery, the State Government has designed its 2021-22 Budget around measures designed to boost South Australia's cost competitiveness in order to attract business investment, as well as sectoral business grants and targeted infrastructure investments.

Of direct relevance to the local government sector, the State Budget also includes a \$5.5 million expansion of the Greener Neighbourhoods program, which is a great outcome that aligns with the LGA's advocacy on increasing urban tree canopy cover.

Budget announcements also refer to annual funding of \$20.7 million for public library services, which retains funding at 2020/21 levels. Further details of this funding are being sought to inform the LGA Board's consideration of a new long-term funding agreement.

The full LGA analysis of the State Budget 2021-22 can be found here.



Phone: 08 8224 2000 • Email: Igasa@lga.sa.gov.au

148 Frome St Adelaide SA 5000 • GPO Box 2693 Adelaide SA 5001

ABN: 83 058 386 353

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