

FinPro Member Update January 2021 (Edition 5, 2021)

Good morning

A different approach this week for our member update, as it is a 'slow news week', which I must say, is very welcome!

Membership News

All councils have now renewed their FinPro Membership. Thank-you for your support.

We welcome the following new members to FinPro:

Lee Watson has joined the team at Warrnambool City Council as Administration Officer – Financial Services.

Brooke Walsh has joined the team at Warrnambool City Council as an Accountant.

Sarah Bubb-Dempster has also joined the team at Warrnambool City Council as Team Leader.

Rosanna Vomberg has joined the team at Pyrenees Shire as Accountant and Finance Business Partner.

We also thank our 2021 Corporate Partners

- Commonwealth Bank
- CT Management
- MAGIQ Software
- LG Solutions
- VOTAR Partners
- Vision Super

Follow up – Budget Survey

Earlier this week we wrote to ONE senior finance person from every council, seeking a response to our Budget survey. To date we have received 27 responses which is fantastic. Thank-you to those who have responded already. If you are still to respond, then in anticipation, thank-you as well.

A reminder of what we sent out (noting only one response per council is required)

We know that it is really busy right now, but were hoping that you might be able to assist us in getting a picture of Victorian LG by completing the attached survey which we believe shouldn't take more than 4 minutes 😊

You may recall that last year we undertook a [survey of the sector around the Budget](#). This information was invaluable in providing us with a snapshot of the sector and was not only used by FinPro to advocate on your behalf to the State Government, but also used by many councils in their discussions with councillors and the public.

We are now running another quick survey to update our findings, based on the financial impacts of your quarter 2 reviews.

If you could please complete this survey by **Friday at 12 noon (19 Feb 2021)** it would really be appreciated. Of course, all survey responses will be compiled and shared with our membership to show an overall picture of the sector. Individual survey responses will not be shared.

[TAKE THE SURVEY NOW](#)

FinPro Online Professional Development Webinar

10.00 – 12.30, Friday 26 February 2021 via zoom

REGISTER NOW

Registrations are free for all FinPro Members

AGENDA

10.00 – 10.10 President welcome

10.10 – 10.50 **The Economy – Presented by Keenan Jackson, Urban Economist & Economic Consultant @ .id**

All councils will now be well engaged on operational planning and budgeting activities. The state of our economy, ongoing uncertainty regarding COVID-Normal and the health and wellbeing needs of our communities will be key factors of consideration. In this next presentation Keenan will provide an economic update and analysis of key indicators that are relevant to our sector. Keenan will also present on population data across our regions with insights on how municipalities have been impacted over the course of this last year and some early indicators on pathways towards recovery.



A little about Keenan: Keenan is an economic development specialist with a passion for analysing how cities and regions evolve over time. He has spent the last decade working with the Victorian State Government and the private sector to provide specialist advice to local governments, helping them understand the forces shaping their economies and communities. He has specialist economic knowledge and expertise in city competitiveness, regional development, cluster analysis, innovation system development, and complexity economics.

10.50 – 11.00 **Break**

11.00 – 12.15 **Local Government Act Implementation Update**

The new Local Government Act 2020 is the most ambitious reform to the local government sector in over 30 years. The Act will improve local government democracy, accountability and service delivery for all Victorians.

Since the Act was proclaimed on 6 April 2020 the LGV has been working with councils in a sector-led approach of co-design and consultation to develop products and materials that are customizable and scalable for individual councils.

Today, Tony Rocca, who has led the work from FinPro's perspective over the past 8 months, will introduce the session, speaking about the various working groups who have been working on various parts of the Act Implementation. He will then introduce the Working Groups Leads who will formally present key highlights in relation to the final documents relevant to their particular group.

- Hannah White – Model Budget
- Malcolm Lewis – Long Term Financial Plan
- John Brockway – Revenue and Rating Strategy

A LGV representative will then speak about the Local Government Act Implementation generally, following this up with the launch the Model Accounts 2020/21.

12.15 – 12.30 **FinPro AGM**

12.30 pm **Close**

NOTE: following from this session we will be running detailed webinar on the models, similar to what we have run in previous year.

This webinar is FREE for all FinPro Members who are part of our Online Professional Development Program. If you are not a member, we welcome you to join – the cost is \$100 per person for the full year or \$500 per organisation for the full year.

Contact [Gab](#) if you have any questions.

Follow-up Budget Preparation Webinar – looking for members to share their experience so far this year.

Last December we ran a highly successful session on preparing for the Budget Process. We plan on running a follow up session to this in early March and are looking for members who would be willing to participate in this and share their experiences and learnings so far. If you are interested please contact [Gab](#).

Current positions advertised on the [FinPro Website](#)

- **Coordinator Financial Accountant**
- Moonee Valley City Council
- <https://careers.pageuppeople.com/896/ci/en/job/494372/financial-accountant>
- For further information, please view the Position Description or contact Andrew Nicolaou, Coordinator Financial Accountant on (03) 9243 8740
- Closing Date – 11.45pm Sunday 28 February 2021

- **Coordinator Financial Services**
- Moorabool Shire Council
- <http://moorabool.recruitment.com.au>
- For further information, contact Steve Ivelja, Chief Financial Officer on (03) 5366 7100.
- Closing date – 5.00pm Sunday 7 March 2021

- **Finance Business Partner**
- Bayside City Council
- <https://www.seek.com.au/job/51567129>
- For further information please contact Yamile Monsalve, Accounting Services Coordinator on (03) 9599 4765
- Applications close 11.59pm Sunday 7 March 2021

We are also aware of a number of regional and rural councils who are seeking both short term and longer-term assistance. If you are looking for a sea / tree / or other change, please let us know and we can put you in touch with some councils looking for finance professionals.

Have a great weekend everyone and enjoy the freedom of no lockdown!

From your friendly FinPro Executive

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