

Jobs, Precincts and Regions

> Model Accounts and Model Budget Webinar



## 2020-21 Model Accounts 2021-22 Model Budget

Local Government Victoria FinPro Crowe Australasia



#### Introduction

#### Housekeeping:

- Session will be recorded
- Please mute microphones when not speaking

#### Structure:

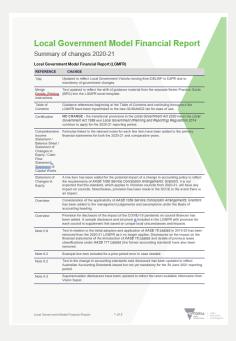
- Changes to 2020-21 Model Accounts
- Changes to 2021-22 Model Budget
- Other upcoming events
- Questions

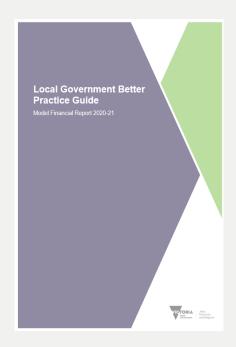


#### Where to find the publications?

#### Visit

https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/strengthening-councils/sector-guidance-planning-and-reporting









# 2020-21 Model Accounts legislative and regulatory requirements

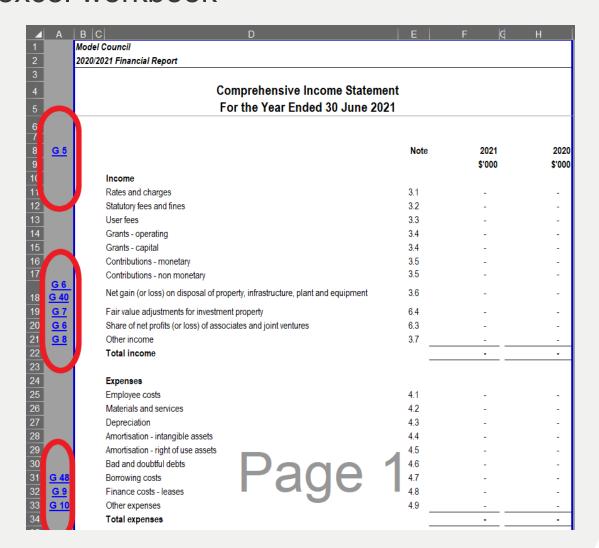
- Local Government Act 2020
  - Royal Assent 24 March 2020
  - Proclaimed in stages
  - Part 4 addresses planning and financial management
  - Part 4 operative from 24 October 2020
  - Includes transitional provisions in section 329(7)
- Transitional Provisions
  - Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 continue to apply to 2020-21 Annual Report



## 2020-21 Model Accounts



 Hyperlinked guidance now in Model Accounts excel workbook





 Hyperlinked guidance now in Model Accounts excel workbook

4	В	С
7 8 <u>G 5</u>	AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements prescribes the basis for presentation of general purpose financial statements and sets out overall requirements for their presentation, guidelines for their structure and minimum requirements for their content. Preparers should refer to specific guidance on the format and inclusions in the comprehensive income statement at AASB 101.81A – 105.  The comprehensive income statement is not to include an underlying result, nor is there a need to include a note within the financial statements reconciling a council's result to an underlying result that is used in the calculation of ratios or for any other reporting purposes.	AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
9 10 11 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 G6 & G40 18 19 20 21 22 23 3	G6 - A limited number of items disclosed in the Comprehensive Income Statement may have a net income or net expense effect. Each of these line items is to be accounted for as income when it is an overall gain and as an expense when it is an overall loss.  If recognised under income these items are:  □ Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment; □ Fair value adjustments for investment property; and □ Share of net profits of associates and joint ventures.  If recognised under expenses these items are: □ Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment; □ Fair value adjustments for investment property; and □ Share of net loss(es) of associates and joint ventures.  This is to be applied to the current and comparative year, which could result in the same line items being disclosed as income in one year and an expense in the comparative.  G40 - As indicated at G6, losses or gains on disposal of assets are to be treated as income or expenses depending on the net impact in a given year. Regardless of the financial impact all items are to be disclosed at note 3.6.  The gain or loss arising from the disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment shall be the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the item.  Where a significant level of disposal activity has occurred, or the result of the disposals has a significant impact on council's performance, consideration should be given to breaking down the disposal details by asset class. Infrastructure is renewed when it comes to the end of its economic life to council and as such it would not be expected that a significant loss on disposal would be incurred. If Council has a significant write-down of infrastructure, it should be trated as other expense and disclosed in note 3.6. Any loss on disposal that is recorded should be taken to the SOCI, not adjusted against the asset revaluation reserve.  Councils need to be careful when measuring the value of specific infrastructure th	Better Practice / AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment / AASB 136 Impairment of Assets
24 <u>G 7</u>	The fair value of investment properties must be reassessed annually with any movement recognised in the surplus/deficit for the period.	AASB 140 Investment Property
225 225 26 27 228 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 G 8	A limited number of items disclosed in the Comprehensive Income Statement may have a net income or net expense effect. Each of these line items is to be accounted for as income when it is an overall gain and as an expense when it is an overall loss.  If recognised under income these items are:  Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment;  Fair value adjustments for investment property; and  Share of net profits of associates and joint ventures.  If recognised under expenses these items are:  Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment;  Fair value adjustments for investment property; and  Share of net loss(es) of associates and joint ventures.	Better Practice
35 G 8	Into is to be applied to the current and complianted year, which could result in the same line tierns being discoused as microme in one year and an expense in the complianted in the Complianted Programmer in the Comp	Better Practice
36 G 48	Where borrowing costs are directly incurred in the acquisition or construction of a qualifying asset a council may elect to capitalise those costs as part of the asset.	AASB 123 Borrowing Costs (para 8)
37 <u>G 9</u> 38	Borrowing costs - are to be disclosed separately on the face of the comprehensive income statement and typically relate to interest on loans. Finance costs - Leases - Following the introduction of AASB 16 Leases an additional line item was included which represents the interest component of capitalised leases and is to be disclosed separately on the face of the comprehensive income statement.	AASB 101.82
G 10	Other expenses should not be a significant portion of total expenses. Where the other expenses are greater than 10% of total expenses councils should consider separate disclosure of any significant item on the face of the financial statements.	Better Practice
40 41	Other comprehensive income (OCI) consists of items of income or expense that are not recognised in the determination of surplus or deficit. In most councils OCI will be limited to movements in asset revaluation reserves.  Accordingly, the LGMFR is prepared reflecting this likely outcome. However, councils may need to recognise other items of OCI in some limited circumstances. In these situations, the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements are to be complied with. Components of other comprehensive income include (but are postumed to):  □ changes in revaluation surpluses	AASB 101.7 / AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment / AASB 138
<b>→</b>	. Note 5.1 Note 5.2-6.1 Note 6.2 Note 6.2(b) Note 6.3-6.4 Note 7.1-7.2 Note 8.1-8.3 Note 8.3-9.1 Note 9.2-9.3 Note 10 GUIDANCE Balance flecks	

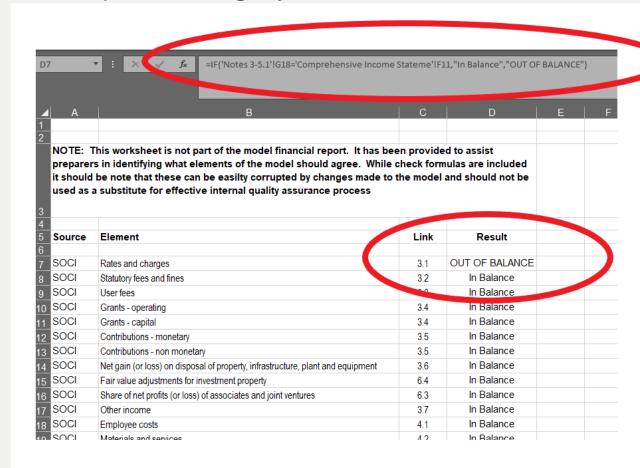


 Balance checks tab added to aid Model Accounts template integrity



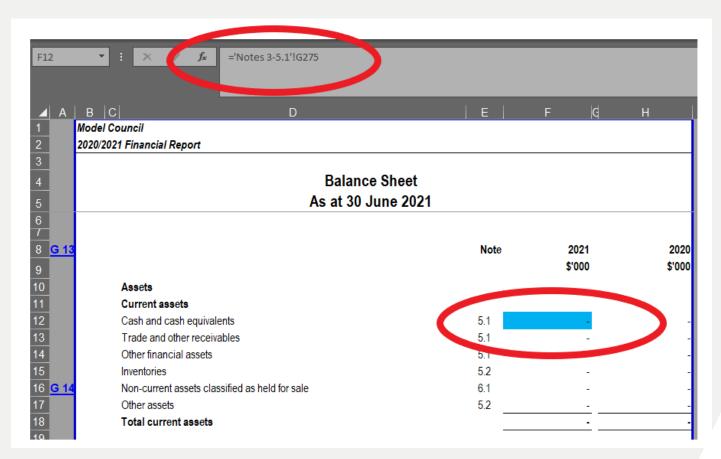


 Balance checks tab added to aid Model Accounts template integrity





Formulas in Primary Financial Statements linked to notes

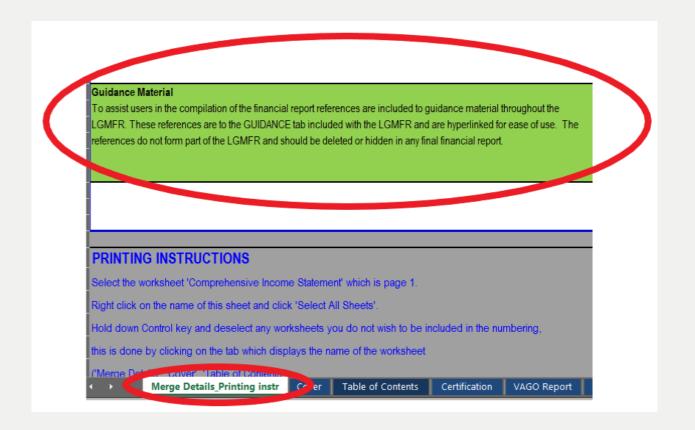




New DJPR cover page (previously DELWP)



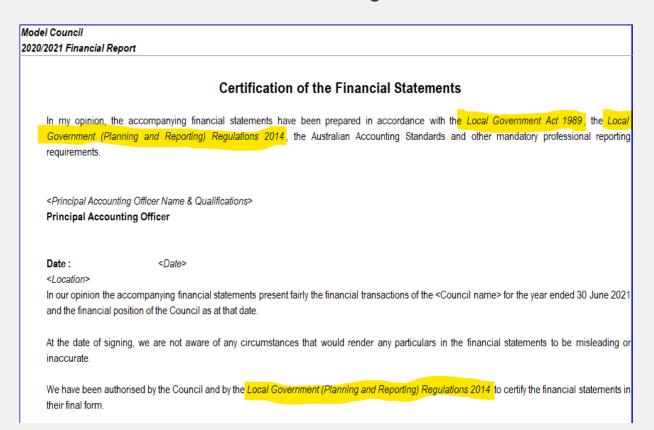
Text in Printing Instructions tab updated to reflect shift of guidance







- Certification of the financial statements has NOT CHANGED
- Still refers to 1989 Act and 2014 Regulations

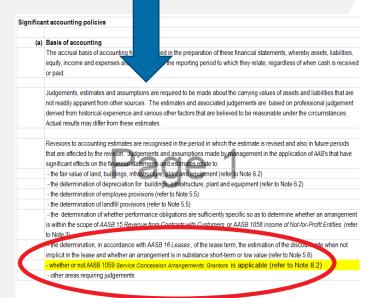




- Statement of Changes in Equity (SOCE)
- Line item available for potential impact of AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors.

 Consideration of the applicability of AASB 1059 also added to the management judgments and assumptions

Statement of	f Change	es in Equi	ty		
For the Year	Ended 3	0 June 20	21		
2021	Note	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year Impact of change in accounting policy -AASB 1059; Service concession arrangements: grantors	10	-	-	-	-
Adjusted Opening balance		-	-	=	-
Surplus/(dentity to - 3.0-)		-	-	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	6.2	-	-		-
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	-	-	-	-
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		-			





 Sample COVID-19 Impacts disclosures also added to Basis of Accounting section (under Overview tab)

#### (b) Impact of Covid-19

On 16 March 2020 a state of emergency was declared in Victoria due to the global pandemic COVID-19 virus, known as coronavirus. A state of disaster was subsequently declared on 2 August 2020. While the impacts of the pandemic have abated somewhat through the 2020-21 year, Council has noted the following significant impacts on its financial operations:

- Additional revenue add details of grant funding received.
- Revenue reductions add details of significant revenue reductions (user fees and charges)
- Revenue foregone add details where council has forgone revenue in response to the pandemic (parking fees, overdue charges, etc)
- Additional costs add any details (which may relate to grant funding or other initiatives). Include increased provisions for doubtful debts and bad debts here.
- · Asset valuations detail any significant impact (if noted)

Note to be added to the unique circumstances of each council.

Page 9

 AASB 16 Leases initial adoption and application text and details of previous lease classifications removed from Note 5.8

8 Leases								
At inception of a contract, all entities would assess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys								
control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use						ol the use of a		
identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether	r:							
- The contract involves the use of an identifie	ed asset;							
- The customer has the right to obtain substa	antially all of t	he econ	omic benefits from	use of the asset	throughout the peri	od of use; and		
- The customer has the right to direct the use	e of the asset							
This policy is applied to contracts entered into, o	r changed, or	n or after	1 July 2019.					
As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use as	set and a lea	se liabili	ity at the lease con	nmencement date	e. The right-of-use a	asset is initially me	asured at cos	
which comprises the initial amount of the lease I	iability adjuste	ed for:						
· any lease payments made at or before the	commencem	ent date	less any lease inc	centives received;	plus			
· any initial direct costs incurred; and								
any initial direct costs incurred; and     an estimate of costs to dismantle and remo	ve the underl	ying ass	et or to restore the	underlying asset	or the site on which	n it is located.		
an estimate of costs to dismantle and remo							usoful life of th	
•	ed using the s	traight-l	ine method from th	ne commenceme	nt date to the earlie	er of the end of the		



• Example line item included for a prior period error in Note 6.2

(b) Plant and Equipment						
	Heritage plant	Plant	Fixtures	Computers		Total plant
	and	machinery and	fittings and	and	Library books	and
	equipment	equipment	furniture	telecomms		equipment
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 1 July 2020	-	-	-	-	-	
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2020	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Movements in fair value						
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	
Disposal	-	_	-	-	-	
Write-off	-	-	-	-	-	
ransfers	-	-				-
Prior period error	-					
Impairment losses recognised in operating result	-	-	-		-	- ,
	-	-				-
Movements in accumulated depreciation		_				
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-	-	-	-	•
comulated depresention of disposals	-	-	-	-	-	•
Prior period error	-	-	-	-	-	
pairment losses cognised in operating result	-	-	-	-	-	
Transfers	_	-	-	-	-	



 Text in change in accounting standards note disclosure has been update to reflect AAS issued but not yet mandatory for 2020-21 in Note 8.2

#### 8.2 Change in accounting standards

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2021 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2021 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2022 that are expected to impact Council.



Superannuation disclosures in Note 9.3 updated to reflect latest available information from Vision Super

Model Council	Notes to the Financial Report								
2020/2021 Financial Report	·								
	The 2020 triennial actuarial investigation surp	lus amounts							
	An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employe								
	Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conduct	ed every three ye	ears and interim actua	arial investigations a	re conducted for				
	each intervening year. A full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.  The Fund's actuarial investigation identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:								
			2020	2019					
			(Triennial)	(Interim)					
			\$m	\$m					
	- A VBI Surplus		100.0	151.3					
	- A total service liability surplus		200.0	233.4					
	- A discounted accrued benefits surplus		217.8	256.7					
	The VBI surplus means that the market value of th	e fund's assets	supporting the defined	d benefit obligations	exceed the vested				
	benefits that the defined benefit members would h								



- Change in accounting policies at Note 10 updated to reflect the application of AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors from 2020-21 (no impact expected)
- Yellow highlighting flags parts of the LGMFR where councils should apply professional judgement or local data to populate the LGMFR template.

Model Council	Notes to the Financial Report							
2020/2021 Financial Report	For the Year Ended 30 June 2021							
10	Change in accounting policy							
	AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors (AASB 1059) (applies	3 2020/21 for LG Sector)						
	Council has adopted AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors, from policies and adjustments to the amounts recognised in the financial statements.>> (To AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Definition of Sector)  Council has adopted AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards completed)  AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - References to 2020/21 for LG Sector)	o be described and completed)  Material (applies 2020/21 for LG  Definition of Material, from 1 July 2020(To be described an						
	Council has adopted AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (To be described and completed)	- References to the Conceptual Framework from 1 July 2020						
	It is not expected that these standards will have any significant impact on cou	uncil.						
	Page 43							



## 2020-21 Model Accounts Better Practice Guide



# What are the key changes to the Model Accounts Better Practice Guide?

 Guidance material has been shifted from the Better Practice Guide into the Model Accounts template

For the 2020-21 reporting year the detailed guidance previously included in this BPG has been moved to within the LGMFR itself. This change aims to allow users to quickly access any relevant guidance from within the LGMFR template and includes hyperlinks for ease of use.

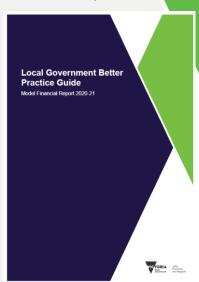
The detailed guidance in the LGMFR is provided to assist local government finance professionals in preparing the council's annual financial statements. For ease of referencing each piece of guidance

<sup>28</sup> Regulation 5 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014

Local Government Better Practice Guide

12 of 16





has been assigned a unique number. Where applicable, references to the *Local Government Act* 2020, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, the *Local Government Act* 1989, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014, Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements are also included.



# What are the key changes to the Model Accounts Better Practice Guide?

Section added on Local Government Act 2020 transitional provisions

#### 3.1.3 Transitional provisions

Part 4 of the Act addresses planning and financial management. The legislative requirements to develop strategic planning, budgeting and annual reporting documents in Part 4 came into operation on 24 October 2020. The *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020* (the regulations) also came into operation on 24 October 2020.

However, the Act and regulations also include transitional provisions which effectively mean the requirements under the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014* remain for the 2020-21 reporting period.

Section 329(7) of the Act includes the following:

- "...(7) Despite the commencement of section 362, the **Local Government Act 1989** as in force immediately before that commencement continues to apply to, and in respect of, the following—
- ....(b) the preparation of the annual report for the financial year ending 30 June 2021;...."

Part 5 of the regulations includes the following:

#### 16 Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014

Despite the revocation of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014, those Regulations as in force immediately before 24 October 2020 continue to apply in relation to the financial year which commenced on 1 July 2020.8



# What are the key changes to the Model Accounts Better Practice Guide?

 Section and diagrams added to contextualise new ISPRF under the Local Government Act 2020

## 4 Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

Part 4 of the *Local Government Act 2020* addresses planning and financial management. The legislative requirements to develop strategic planning, budgeting and annual reporting documents in Part 4 came into operation on 24 October 2020.

The Act introduces strategic planning principles for Victorian councils which include an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting. <sup>10</sup> This important shift from a more prescriptive form of legislation to a new Act that is principles-based is explored further in the *Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Discussion Paper* which is available at <a href="https://engage.vic.gov.au/local-government-act-2020">https://engage.vic.gov.au/local-government-act-2020</a>.

Part 4 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires councils to prepare the following:

- A Community Vision (for at least the next 10 financial years);<sup>11</sup>
- A Council Plan (for at least the next 4 financial years);<sup>12</sup>
- A Financial Plan (for at least the next 10 financial years);<sup>13</sup>
- An Asset Plan (for at least the next 10 financial years);<sup>14</sup>
- A Revenue and Rating Plan (for at least the next 4 financial years);<sup>15</sup>
- An Annual Budget (for the next 4 financial years);<sup>16</sup>
- A Quarterly Budget Report;<sup>17</sup>
- An Annual Report (for each financial year);<sup>18</sup> and





# What else has changed in the Model Accounts Better Practice Guide?

Message from LGV, Introduction and guidance sections updated to reflect:



- Local Government Act 2020;
- Transitional provisions;
- Shift of guidance to Model Accounts template;
- Working group membership details;
- Other changes include:
  - Updated Glossary to reflect Local Government Act 2020;
  - Updated References section with latest editions and hyperlinks

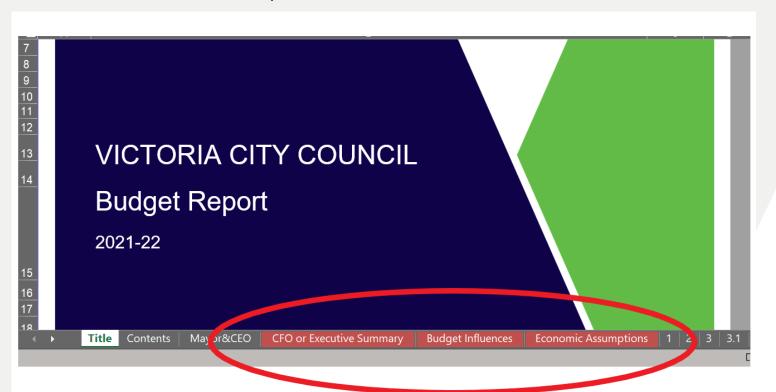




## 2021-22 Model Budget



- Optional tabs added to Model Budget template
  - CFO or Executive Summary
  - Budget Influences
  - Economic Assumptions

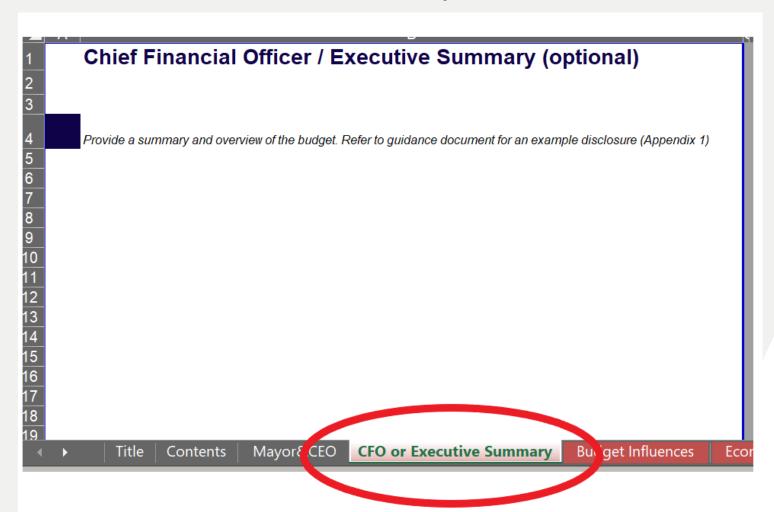






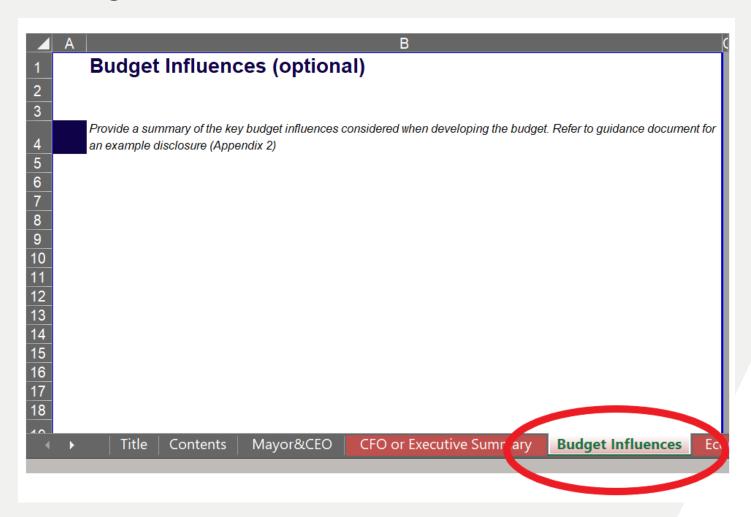


CFO or Executive Summary





Budget Influences



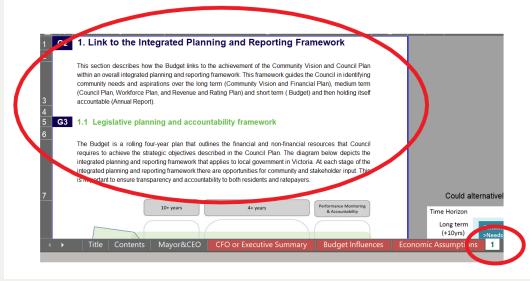


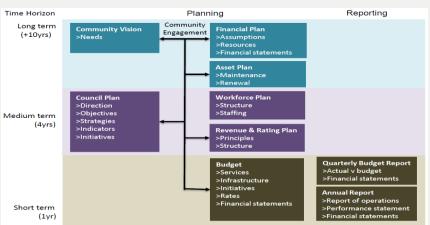
• Economic Assumptions

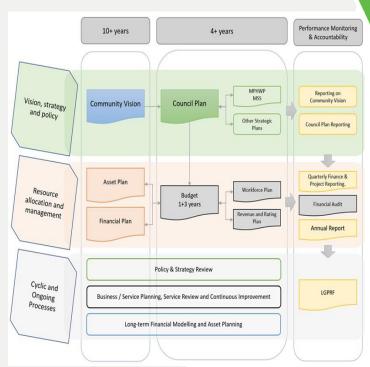
Assumption	Notes	Actual	Forecast	Budget	P	rojections	Tre
Assumpuon	No	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 +/
Rate Cap Increase	1	%	%	%	%	%	%
Population Growth	2	%	%	%	%	%	%
Investment Interest Rate	3	%	%	%	%	%	%
Borrowing Interest Rate	4	%	%	%	%	%	%
CPI	5	%	%	%	%	%	%
User Fees	6	%	%	%	%	%	%
Grants - Recurrent	7	%	%	%	%	%	%
Grants - Non-Recurrent		%	%	%	%	%	%
Contributions		%	%	%	%	%	%
Proceeds from sale of assets		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Finance Costs		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other Revenue		%	%	%	%	%	%
Employee Costs	8	%	%	%	^/_	0/0	%
Contactors, consultants and materials		%	%	%	%	%	



Section 1 updated for Integrated Strategic
 Planning and Reporting Framework (ISPRF)

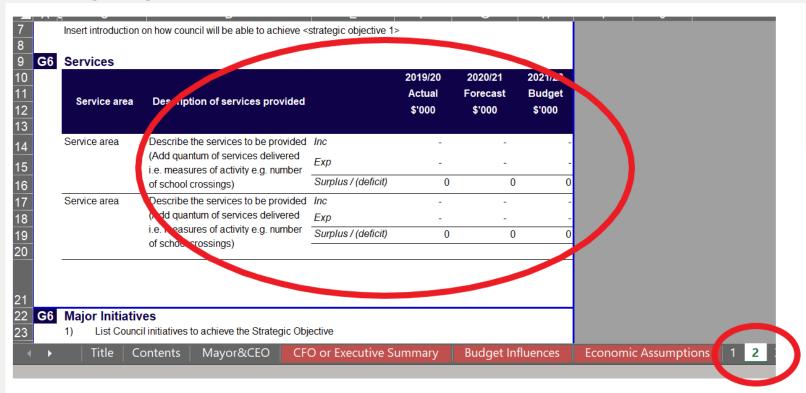






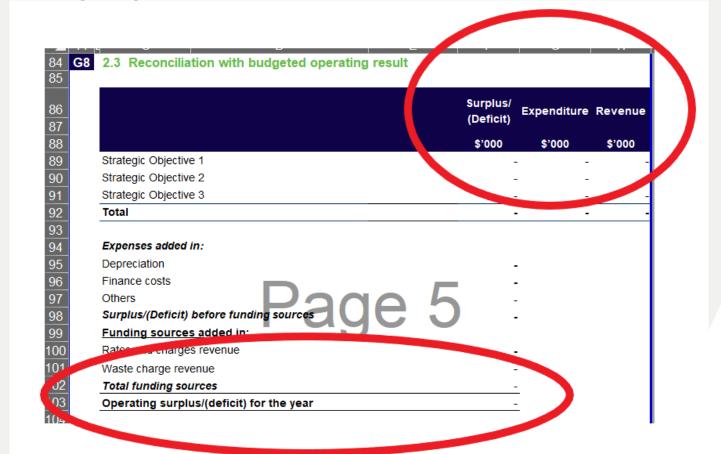


 Section 2 adjusted to better align with Comprehensive Income Statement format and language



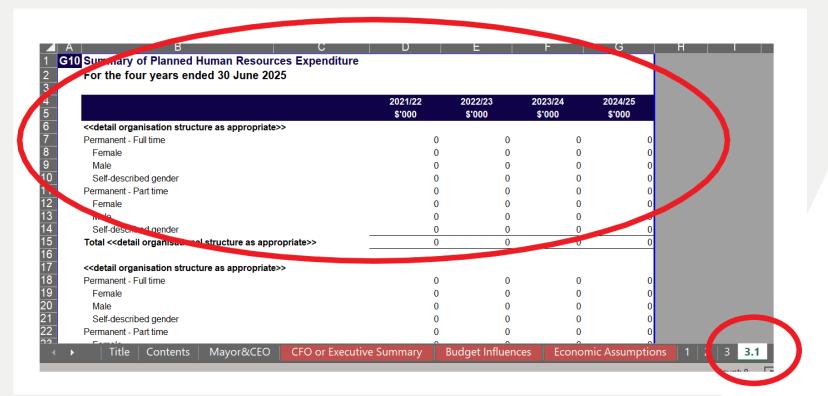


 Section 2 adjusted to better align with Comprehensive Income Statement format and language (continued)



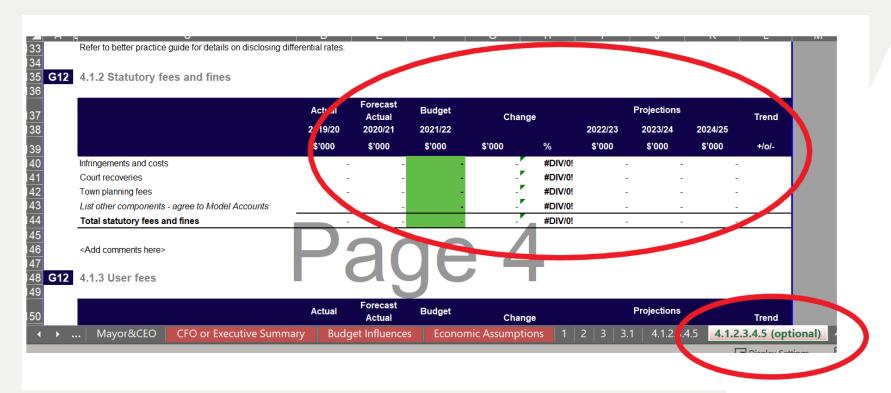


 Section 3.1 now includes a 4-Year summary of planned human resources expenditure and FTE by employment type and gender



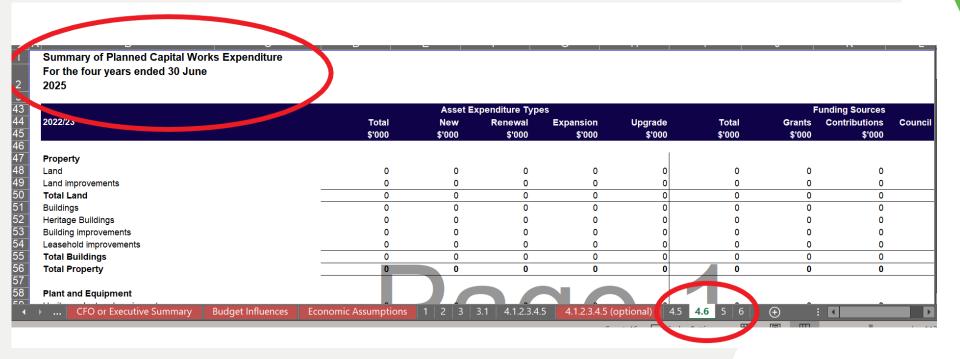


 Section 4 notes to the financial statements now includes an optional tab for 4-year figures in the notes





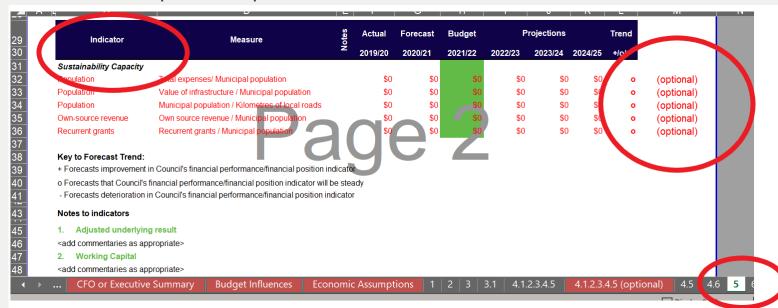
 Section 4.6 now includes a 4-Year summary of planned capital works expenditure by asset expenditure type and funding source





## What are the key changes to the 2021-22 Model Budget?

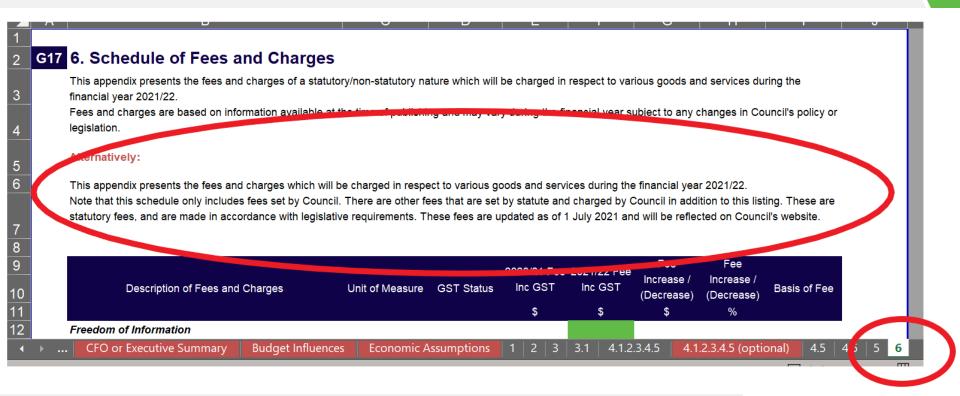
- Section 5 changes include:
  - additional text to reference the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020
  - Removal of references to the Strategic Resource Plan
  - The LGPRF Sustainability Indicators are included in the Model Budget template as optional





## What are the key changes to the 2021-22 Model Budget?

 Section 6 (schedule of fees and charges) now includes alternative introductory text





## What else has changed in the 2021-22 Model Budget?

## Other changes include:

- Updated references throughout the Model Budget to reflect the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020
- Language and terminology updates throughout
- Optional information for inclusion by councils, at their discretion (flagged in red text or red tabs)
- Updated the rate cap to 1.5% for 2021-22
- Rolled forward the budget years
- Removed text on Pending Accounting Standards (AASB 16, 15 and 1058)
- Included linkage in Section 4 to the Revenue and Rating Plan



# 2021-22 Model Budget Better Practice Guide



- Guide format updated to DJPR style
- Introduction and Message from LGV sections updated to reflect Local Government Act 2020 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020



#### 3 Introduction

Local government in Victoria manages approximately \$103.3 billion of community assets and infrastructure and spends around \$9 billion on the provision of services annually.¹ Local government, in partnership with other levels of government, is responsible for aspects of everyday life that people care about deeply – from vibrant and safe public spaces, to accessible libraries, to strong local business and employment opportunities. Effective planning and reporting by councils is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability to the community and other levels of government as to how public money is being spent and the quality of services delivered.

#### 3.1 Local Government Act 2020

#### 3.1.1 Objectives and purpose

The Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) received Royal Asset on 24 March 2020 with proclamation to occur in stages. The Act is a principles-based Act, removing unnecessary regulatory and legislative prescription.

The objectives of the Act are as follows:

The objectives of this Act are to ensure that -

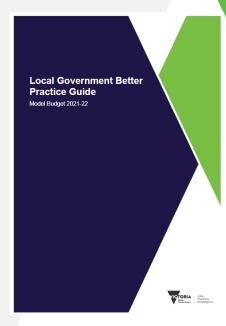
- (a) local government continues to be constituted as a democratically elected tier of Government in Victoria; and
- (b) Councils are constituted as representative bodies that are accountable, transparent, collaborative, efficient and engaged with their communities; and
- (c) Councils have the functions and powers necessary to enable Councils to perform their role.<sup>2</sup>

The purpose of the Act is as follows:

The purpose of this Act is to give effect to section 74A(1) of the **Constitution Act 1975** which provides that local government is a distinct and essential tier of government consisting of democratically elected Councils having the functions and powers that the Parliament considers are necessary to ensure the peace, order and good government of each municipal district.<sup>3</sup>

#### 3.1.2 Role of a council

The Act specifies the role of a council is





 Better Practice Guide updated to reflect the new Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework (ISPRF)

### 4 Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

Part 4 of the Local Government Act 2020 addresses planning and financial management. The legistration requirements to develop strategic planning, budgeting and annual reporting documents in Part 4 came into operation 24 October 2020.

The Act introduces strategic planning principles for Victorian councils which include an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting. This important shift from a more prescriptive form of legislation to a new Act that is principles-based is explored further in the *Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Discussion Paper* which is available at <a href="https://engage.vic.gov.au/local-government-act-2020">https://engage.vic.gov.au/local-government-act-2020</a>.

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- A Financial Plan (for at least the next 10 financial years);<sup>11</sup>
- An Asset Plan (for at least the next 10 financial years);<sup>12</sup>
- A Revenue and Rating Plan (for at least the next 4 financial years);<sup>13</sup>
- A Budget (for at least the next 4 financial years);14
- A Quarterly Budget Report;<sup>15</sup>
- An Annual Report (for each financial year);<sup>16</sup> and
- Financial Policies.<sup>17</sup>

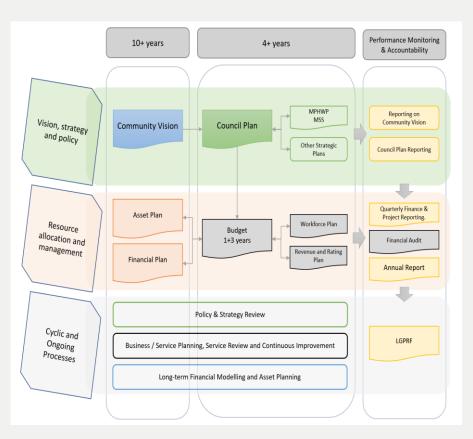
The Act also requires councils to prepare:

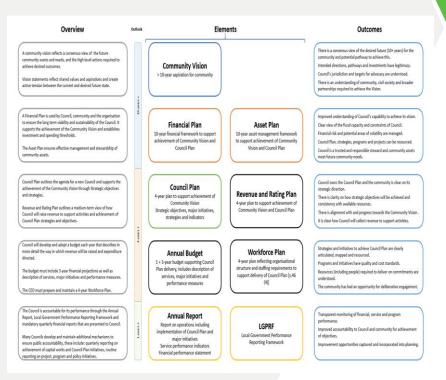
A Workforce Plan (including projected staffing requirements for at least 4 years);<sup>18</sup>

The legislative timeframes for development, review and adoption of the elements of the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework (ISPRF) and the time horizons for each element vary. However, there are also many linkages, including the central importance of community engagement. It is therefore vital to recognise the relationships and degrees of integration between different elements. To aid this process, visual representations of the ISPRF have been developed.



 Better Practice Guide updated to reflect the new Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework (ISPRF)







 Overview and Guidance sections updated to reflect new legislative and regulatory requirements

#### 5 Local Government Model Budget (Overview)

5.1 Statutory requirements

"The Act requires councils to prepare a budget for each financial year and the three subsequent financial years."

#### Section 94 of the Act states mac-

- a Council must prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years.<sup>19</sup>
- the budget must include a description of services and initiatives to be funded<sup>20</sup>
- the budget must contain for services to be funded in the budget, the prescribed indicators and measures of service performance that must be reported against in the performance statement and the prescribed measures relating to those indicators<sup>21</sup>
- the budget must identify major initiatives identified by the council as priorities in the Council Plan
  to be undertaken during each financial year<sup>22</sup>
- the budget must contain the amount which the council intends to raise by general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges and whether general rates will be raised by the application of a uniform rate, differential rate or limited differential rate<sup>23</sup>
- if the council intends to declare a differential rate for any land, it must include details of the differential rate in the budget<sup>24</sup>
- the budget must contain a statement if council intends to apply for a special order to increase the
  average rate cap, or if it has made an application to the ESC for a special order to increase the
  average rate cap, or if a special order has been made and a higher cap applies for the financial
  year<sup>25</sup>

the proposed budget may be prepared on the basis of an average rate cap, or a proposed higher rate cap, or both an average rate cap and a proposed higher cap<sup>26</sup> In addition to section 94 of the Act, councils should review part 3 of the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting Regulations 2020* for



# What else has changed in the 2021-22 Model Budget Better Practice Guide?

## Other changes include:

- Compliance checklist and Glossary sections updated to reflect the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020
- Appendices included which provide optional example disclosures for councils to consider including in their Budget
- Updated links to other publications in reference section
- Language and terminology updates throughout

Other upcoming events



### Other upcoming events

- Wednesday 10 March from 2.00 3.00pm <u>Budget Preparation Progress</u>
- Friday 12 March 2021 from 12.30 2.00pm Financial Plan Webinar
- Thursday 18 March 2021 from 9.30 10.30am Fraud Awareness
- Friday 19 March 2021 from 12.30 2.00pm Revenue and Rating Plan
   Webinar

REGISTER at www.finpro.org.au



Questions?



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