

FinPro Member Update – Edition 26, 2021

Good afternoon,

Interesting morning for many I'm sure with news overnight that the Chief Health Officer has updated his directions to now include all Local Government employees in the mandatory vaccination list. Obviously, each Council will have a slightly different roll out approach to the directions, but I think the clarity that it includes all staff is very helpful. FinPro continues to encourage members to take the steps necessary to obtain medical advice, and if appropriate, to 'get the jab done'!

Plenty in today's Update, including a Q and A in relation to the TCV Loans Framework and links to a couple of webinars. I note in particular the joint webinar between FinPro, LGV and VLGA on 'Debt- Another Resource for Councils to Consider' next Thursday. It was also great to see lots of our members at yesterday's webinar, where we looked at tips to recharge our batteries.

I hope that you are getting a bit of downtime now that most of our financial statements and year-end audits have been completed, and before we start planning for next year's budget 😊

Enjoy the weekend and hopefully there isn't too much rain. It has certainly been a wet spring!
Have a great weekend everyone,



Bradley Thomas
President – FinPro
CEO Hepburn Shire Council

Membership

Welcome to new member **Dona Alahakoon** who has joined the team at Colac Otway Shire as the Coordinator Financial Services on 04th October. Dona comes from the Greater Western Water Corporation.

Welcome to **Carly Demont** who has joined the team at Moreland City Council as Management Accounting Coordinator.

Welcome to **Andrew Burgess** who has moved to the role at Hepburn Shire as Director Organisational Services and has now joined the FinPro membership as well.

Welcome to **Genevieve Conlan** who has joined the team at Macedon Ranges Shire as an Accountant and also to **Greg Partikas** who has joined the team at Macedon Ranges as their Financial Accountant.

Congratulations to **Graham Haylock** on his new role as Manager Financial Services at Northern Grampians Shire. Graham was the Manager Business Service at Murrindindi Shire and commences his new role on 18 October.

Upcoming events

14 – 17 November 2021 – Leadership Program at Country Place Kalorama (moved from 5 – 8 September 2021)

3 December 2021 – FinPro End of Year Lunch and AGM – Leonda by the Yarra

23 – 25 February 2022 – FinPro Annual Conference at RACV Cape Schanck (moved from 20 – 22 October 2021)

Webinar of the week

Need some fresh ideas on how to reboot your day? – check out the webinar we ran on Thursday 14 Oct with Clare Desira – Practical Tools to help your wellbeing.

[Read more and watch the recording here](#)

The recording of this session will be available until 25 October 2021. Clare has also offered to send out weekly tools and tips, tailored to our members, over the next 4 weeks. If you would like to receive these, please [email gab](#).

Membership Renewals and New Member Portal

The FinPro Financial Year commenced on 1 October 2021. FinPro Membership renewal notices have now been sent out. For councils who have a Council Membership, the renewal notice was sent to the main contact person. For Individual Members, renewal notices were sent individually.

5 steps to setting yourself up in our new MyFinPro system.

1. Go to: <https://my.finpro.org.au/>
2. Click the Log in button up the right-hand corner
3. Enter your email then press “Forgot password”
4. Enter your email again, tick the ‘I’m not a robot’ button. This should let you set a new password.
5. You then go back to the start and login using those details.



We have lots of great new ideas for the coming year including the introduction of a FinPro member portal, member forum and a new look membership where individual members will be able to manage their own subscriptions.

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. Copies of relevant information is available on the [LGV website](#)

Important Dates in relation to the LG Act:

September 2021

- [2020-21 Annual Report – by 30 September 2021](#)

October 2021

- [Financial Plan – 31 October 2021](#)
- [Council Plan – 31 October 2021](#)
- [Community Vision – 31 October 2021](#)

December 2021

- Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy – 31 December
- Workforce Plan – 31 December
- Recruitment Policy – 31 December
- Staff Code of Conduct – 31 December
- Complaints Policy – 31 December
- Procurement Policy – 31 December

2022

- Asset Plan – 30 June 2022

Access to funding through TCV – Your questions answered

In early September the State Government announced that “Victoria’s 79 councils may now access loans from Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV). The primary objective of this initiative is to address concerns regarding the cost of borrowing by giving Victorian councils access to lower cost loan funds through TCV.”

Following the announcement FinPro representatives met with representatives from LGV and TCV to discuss the proposed TCV loan to local government. On behalf of the sector, FinPro has welcomed the initiative from the state government and provided a list of questions that were collected from its members.

The discussion was productive, and all questions asked by our members were tabled with TCV / LGV.

Thanks to TCV / LGV for providing the answers which are [available now](#). They follow these themes:

1. Timelines
2. Process
3. Ratios / Rates
4. Term Deposits
5. TCV’s other services – Treasury management, project advisory and economic services
6. Contact details for any future questions

[READ THE FULL Q & A HERE](#)

MAV WorkCare Member Financial Liability

We know that the MAV has recently provided to Councils details related to the financial liability associated with the MAV WorkCare scheme. This will be a significant cost for those impact Councils. We understand too that the MAV are continuing advocacy with State Government and FinPro will keep a watchful eye on any developments and let you know of anything new when we have that information.

Upcoming webinars (run by other organisations)



A procurement and conflict of interest webinar by the Victorian Ombudsman.

Wednesday 27 October 2021 from 2.00 – 3.00pm

[MORE INFORMATION ON THIS FREE EVENT HERE](#)



DEBT - ANOTHER RESOURCE FOR COUNCILS TO CONSIDER
 THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2021, 10:00AM TO 11:30AM

LGV, FinPro & VLGA CONNECT LIVE PANEL DISCUSSION
 Moderated by Chris Eddy

Brought to you by Local Government Victoria (LGV), FinPro and the VLGA, this panel explores the responsible use of debt as a funding resource and highlights the recently announced access to Treasury Corporation Victoria loan funds.

A council's decision surrounding the appropriateness of debt will be important in the development of 4 year budgets and strategic plans including council, financial, asset management and rating and revenue plans.

Hon Shaun Leane MP Minister for Local Government
Julie Reid Executive Director, Local Government Victoria
Andrew Greaves Victorian Auditor-General
John Comrie Local Government Financial Sustainability Consultant
Lucy Roffey Chief Executive Officer, Central Goldfields Shire Council

BOOK NOW: vlga.org.au/events



Jobs, Precincts and Regions




Debt- Another Resource for Councils to Consider

Thursday 21 October 2021 from 10.00 – 11.30am

This event is for Councillors, CEO's and FinPro Members

[REGISTER NOW FOR THIS FREE EVENT](#)

General Information / Reading

Climate Council Report – Climate costs and risks to Council



For members who like to read, a new report from the Climate Council was recently issued which may be of interest.

[READ THE ARTICLE HERE](#)

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

- **Rates Administration Officer - Revenue**
 - Greater Bendigo City Council
 - [Further details](#)
 - Applications close COB October 26, 2021

- **Coordinator Procurement & Contracts**
 - Brimbank City Council
 - [Further details](#)
 - Applications close 14 October 2021

- **Procurement Business Partner (12 months fixed-term contract)**
 - Brimbank City Council
 - [Further details](#)
 - Applications close 22 October 2021

- **Manager Business Services**
 - [Murrindindi Shire Council](#)
 - Further details
 - Applications close 5.00pm, Monday 18 October 2021

FinPro Executive Team 2021

President	Bradley Thomas (Hepburn SC)
Vice-President – Chair Professional Development	Binda Gokhale (Wyndham CC)
PD Committee Members	Alan Wilson (Melbourne CC) Belinda Johnson (Southern Grampians SC) Charles Nganga (Casey CC) Melissa Baker (South Gippsland SC)
Vice-President – Chair Technical	Tony Rocca (Maroondah CC)
Technical Committee Members	Danny Wain (Monash CC) Fiona Rae (Golden Plains SC) Mark Montague (Whittlesea CC) Nathan Morsillo (Greater Bendigo CC) Simone Wickes (Frankston CC) Wei Chen (Yarra CC)
Secretary / Treasurer	Gabrielle Gordon

Thank-you to our 2021 Corporate Partners

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| * Commonwealth Bank | * Maia Financial |
| * CT Management | * New Era Management |
| * .id informed decisions | * VOTAR Partners |
| * Ibis Information Systems | * Vision Super |
| * MAGIQ Software | * Westpac |

FinPro Contact Details

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