

# Victorian City Council Model Budget 2012/13

## A Best Practice Guide

Local Government Finance Professionals  
Annual Conference  
2 March 2012

Bruce Dobson CA



NUMBER ONE IN NUMBERS

# What is the model budget?

- Best practice guide
- Framework for preparing a budget
- Financial management guidance
- Based on real life examples
- Attempts to balance needs of all users



# Who is on the taskforce?

## Members

- Bruce Dobson (Boroondara/Chair)

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- Kevin Adams (McLean Delmo)
- Joella Gould (UHY Haines Norton)
- Rob Wernli (DFK Collins)

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- Kevin Ayre (Manningham/FINPro)
- Steve Burgess (Wyndham/LGPro)
- Lucy Roffey (Mount Alexander/FINPro)

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- Allan Holmes (MAV)



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# What is in the Guide?

## Structured in four layers

- Introduction and summary (Mayor; CEO)
  - Overview (links to Council Plan; activities; budget influences)
  - Budget analysis (financial statements)
  - Long term strategies
- + Appendices (more details and statutory disclosures)



# Who uses it?

## Survey undertaken Dec 2011

- 37 Councils (mix of metro, rural, regional cities)
- 93% fully/partially completed all sections
- Highest
  - Appendices (100%)
  - All 'overview' and 'budget analysis' sections (95%)
  - 'long term strategy' sections (92%)
  - 'budget processes' section (97%)
- Lowest
  - Mayor's Intro (72%); CEO Summary (88%); fees & charges (82%)



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# Survey comments - themes

- Timing
- Combine Mayors & CEO summary
- Long term strategies – others?
- KSAs – don't need separate Appendix
- Link Word and Excel versions
- Finance document vs Council Plan repeat vs public accessibility?
- Financial sustainability focus?

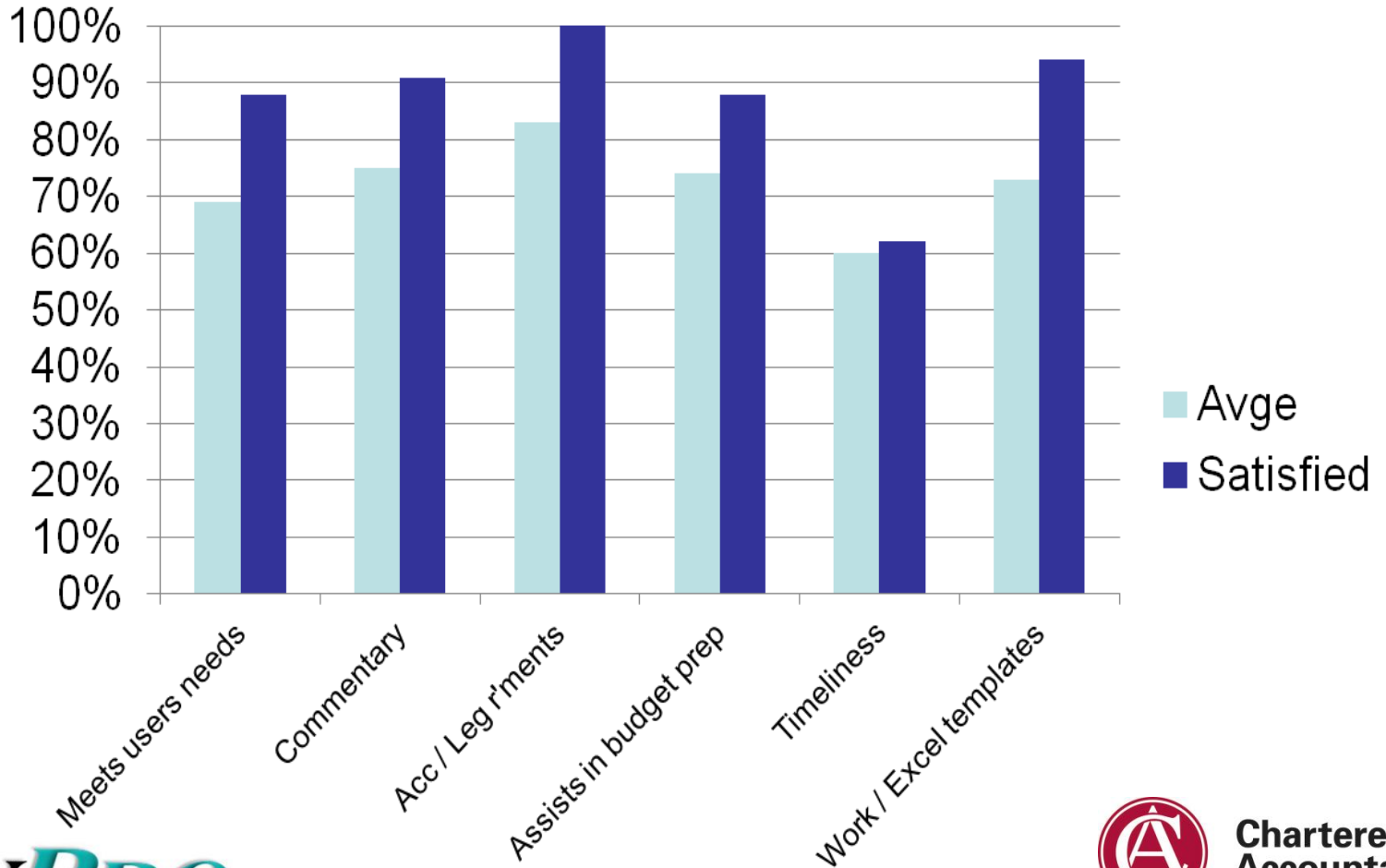


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# Survey - ratings



# What are the changes?

- Out earlier
- Key Strategic Activities
- LSL Regulations
- Capital funding disclosure
- Revised budget information
- Updated description of topical issues



# What is available?

## Officers

- Soft copy report
- Templates (Word / Excel)
- Summary of changes
- Available now on FinPro website

# What is available?

## Mayors and CEOs

- Hard copy report
- Mailed out from MAV (March / April)
- Extra copies available from MAV and/or Institute



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