

## **FACT SHEET 1:** **Basic facts about Australian Local Government** (Revised February 2012)

### **1. Number of councils<sup>1</sup>**

565 in 2011 (compared to 1067 in 1910)

### **2. Number of local government elected members at July 2009<sup>2</sup>**

5070. 1440 (28.4%) are women.

### **3. Number of Local Government employees at June 2010<sup>3</sup>**

195,500

### **4. Percentage of women employees in local government 2006<sup>4</sup>**

43% (58,520 female employees out of 135,841 employees)

### **5. Population of the largest elected council<sup>5</sup>**

Brisbane City Council: 1,067,279 people at 30 June 2010

### **6. Local Government Revenue 2009-10<sup>6</sup>**

\$32,418 million including:

- \$11,566 million in taxation revenue, principally rates (35.7%)
- \$9,276 million in sales of goods and services (28.6%)
- \$2,894 million in grants and subsidies (8.9%)

### **7. Local Government expenditure 2009-10<sup>6</sup>**

\$27,891 million including:

- \$6,812 million on housing and community amenities (24.4%)
- \$6,129 million on transport and communications (22.0%)
- \$4,071 million on recreation and culture (14.6%)

### **8. Local Government Assets 2009-10<sup>6</sup>**

\$326,526 million, including \$306,827 million (94%) as land and fixed assets

### **9. Formation of the first Municipal institutions<sup>7</sup>**

Adelaide Corporation 1840; City of Sydney July 1842; Town of Melbourne August 1842.

<sup>1</sup> 2007-08 Local Government National Report (LGNR) p49; personal communication Dept of Regional Australia

<sup>2</sup> Local Government and Planning Minister's Council Women in Local Government Strategy 2009-12 p3

<sup>3</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Cat 6248.0 issued 21/12/2011; Includes full-time, part-time or casual staff and those engaged in the commercial activities of local government

<sup>4</sup> ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing Cat 2068.0

<sup>5</sup> Queensland Treasury [www.oesr.qld.gov.au/products/profiles/pop-housing-profiles-lga/pop-housing-profile-brisbane.pdf](http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au/products/profiles/pop-housing-profiles-lga/pop-housing-profile-brisbane.pdf) accessed 28 July 2011 and LGNR

<sup>6</sup> ABS Cat 5512.0 Government Finance Statistics 2009-10 Issued 20/4/11