




## Appendix one – Response from agency

Strengthening local government



**Office of  
Local Government**

5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Our Reference: A599062  
Your Reference: PA6604  
Contact: Melissa Gibbs  
Phone: 02 4428 4174

Mr Ian Goodwin  
Deputy Auditor General of NSW  
GPO Box 12  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By Email: [mail@audit.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@audit.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Goodwin

Thank you for your letter of 8 June 2018 and for the opportunity to respond to the Performance Audit Report on Shared Services in Local Government.


The Office of Local Government (OLG) welcomes the Audit Office's observations on strengthening local government performance in shared service delivery.

In particular, OLG notes and supports the report's recommended practices for councils to efficiently and effectively undertake shared services. Additionally, the recommendation that OLG develop guidance on the risks and opportunities of shared service governance models will provide valuable support to councils.

I am also pleased to advise that the Government has recently introduced a further initiative to support council collaboration and provide a robust governance framework for councils to undertake shared services. The establishment of 11 new Joint Organisations (JOs) provides new opportunities for councils in regional NSW to address existing challenges and improve their service delivery. This initiative is the result of four years of collaboration with the local government sector. The observations provided by the Audit Office will be of great assistance in supporting councils who choose to share services through JOs.

The Office of Local Government looks forward to working with the Audit Office to implement the findings of the report, as we continue to support local councils to deliver high quality, value for money services for their communities.

Yours sincerely

  
**Tim Hurst**  
Acting Chief Executive  
Office of Local Government  
14/6/18

T 02 4428 4100 F 02 4428 4199 TTY 02 4428 4209  
E [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au) W [www.olg.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au) ABN 44 913 630 046

