

Circular Details	Circular No 18-01 / 9 February 2018 / A581427
Previous Circular	<i>Not applicable</i>
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff
Contact	Melissa Gibbs, Director Policy and Sector Development, melissa.gibbs@olg.nsw.gov.au ; (02) 4428 4174
Action required	Information

Establishment of a Council Engagement Team

What's new or changing

- OLG is changing the way it engages with councils.
- A key step is the establishment of a Council Engagement Team.

What this will mean for your council

- The Council Engagement Team will:
 - work closely with councils and Joint Organisations
 - identify emerging issues and opportunities for OLG to address
 - implement programs to support improved council performance
 - build working relationships with State agencies.
- OLG will be establishing six new positions – Council Engagement Managers – to work more closely with councils across the state.

Key points

- The Council Engagement Team will include six new Council Engagement Manager positions, whose role will be to:
 - develop and build relationships with councils and Joint Organisations
 - determine and identify emerging issues affecting councils and those that are likely to eventuate; and identify solutions and initiatives to respond
 - provide information and assistance to councils on State Government policy priorities
 - facilitate effective working relationships between State and local government agencies and improve collaboration and support
 - develop and deliver programs to support councils.
- Council Engagement Managers will travel extensively, and will work with clusters of councils on a regional basis.
- The Council Engagement Team will work closely with the Department of Premier and Cabinet's regional directors and established regional collaboration processes.
- Some Council Engagement Managers will be based in Sydney to work with councils in the metropolitan area.
- Recruitment action has commenced, and appointments should be finalised by the end of March 2018.

Where to go for further information

- Once appointed, Council Engagement Managers will be in touch with councils to further outline their role and to discuss how councils would like to engage with the Council Engagement Team.
- In the meantime, please contact Melissa Gibbs, Director Policy and Sector Development at OLG on (02) 4428 4174 or melissa.gibbs@olg.nsw.gov.au for further information



Tim Hurst
Acting Chief Executive