



**Inquiry into Local Government Funding**

**Inquiry into local government funding & responsibilities  
- Roundtable discussion with local Victorian councils  
in Warrnambool after Reserve Bank hearing this Friday -**

The House of Representatives Economics Committee is examining the financial position of local government in Australia, and in particular the issue of cost-shifting onto local government.

The inquiry has been initiated in response to concerns that local government is increasingly having to provide a range of services to communities, such as health centres, aged care facilities, employment programs and security guards, without being provided financial resources to do so.

As part of the inquiry, the Committee will hold a roundtable discussion with local councils from south-western Victoria, in **Warrnambool** on **Friday, 6 December**. The roundtable will follow the Committee's public hearing with the Reserve Bank.

The inquiry is examining local government's current roles and responsibilities, current and alternative funding arrangements, and the scope for achieving a rationalisation of roles and responsibilities between the levels of government. It is interested in achieving better use of resources and delivering better quality services to local communities.

**WHO:** House of Representatives Economics Committee, Inquiry into Local Government

**WHAT & WHEN:** Roundtable discussion, Friday 6 December 2002, 2.15pm to 4pm

**WHERE:** Warrnambool Racing Club, Grafton Road, Warrnambool, Victoria

**ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS:**  
Hindmarsh Shire Council  
Warrnambool City Council  
Corangamite Shire Council  
Moorabool Shire Council  
Southern Grampians Shire Council  
Pyrenees Shire Council

The Committee expects to report to Government by mid-2003. The Government will wait for the Committee's report before considering the recommendations of the Commonwealth Grant's Commission's review of the Local Government (Financial Assistance Act) 1995.

**For media comment: please contact House of Representatives Economics Committee Chair  
Mr David Hawker MP on (02) 6277 4837**

**For further information:** Susan Cardell, Inquiry Secretary on telephone: 02 6277 2022, mobile: 0411 440 490, or visit the inquiry website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/efpa/fiparep.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/efpa/fiparep.htm)

**House Economics Committee:**

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