

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SUPPORT TEAM (FAST) GRANTS PROGRAM

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Proposed output to take the form of a business case, feasibility study, procurement, proof of concept or similar

- Demonstrated scope of the activity and the key outputs that will be developed
- Demonstrated objectives of the activity and how it aligns with the Program's objectives
- Is the activity consistent with the Plans of participating councils and/or alignment with current Victorian Government policies?
- Is the activity in direct response to State Government audit reporting? i.e: Performance Audit, VAGO Audit

Be a collaborative proposal between 2 or more local governments. Does the activity provide:

- Details of the local governments participating in the proposed activity and their respective contributions ?
- A rationale for the collaborative group, i.e. why this group has formed and the possible benefits ?
- The role of other non-local government parties if included?
- Any previous experience of collaboration between the applicant group?

Demonstrate how the proposal will identify or deliver savings and/or improved business practices

- Does the proposed activity seek to reduce costs or improve services?
- Does the activity provide some demonstrated benchmarking or outline cost benefits?

A realistic outline of financial benefits of the activity

- Does the proposed activity directly or indirectly benefit the financial sustainability of the councils?
- Are there anticipated financial or service delivery benefits to be realised by undertaking the activity?

Ability to assess the activity's proposed outcomes and some ability for the activity to generate a replicable or collaborative model for local governments.

- Does the activity trial or test the feasibility of collaboration?
- Does the activity contribute to the building of local government's collaborative capacity and capability?
- Can the activity's outcomes can be assessed?
- Can the activity's benefits be implemented or sustained once funding ceases?
- Is the activity to be implemented around a proven or new collaborative model?

Written support of participating council CEOs

- The application must provide support in the form of a letter or email that specifically relates to the proposed activity
- Please provide additional detail of related activities or council actions provided by the CEO to demonstrate endorsement and support

Provision of at least 50 per cent in kind services or contribution by councils to the proposed budget

- Applicant councils must demonstrate an investment in the proposed activity via budgetary or in-kind support

There is no requirement for all proposed activity participants to contribute equally, however activities that demonstrate support from all participants in the form of budget and/or in-kind resourcing will be considered more favourably