**COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL – SUSTAINABILITY FUND PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

1. **The proposal's aims/activities must accord with the Sustainability Fund Objectives.**

 Describe:

* How does the proposed project align with either/both of the Sustainability Fund objectives
* What existing or identified gaps and/or issues in environmental sustainability, climate change, waste management or recycling would you expect to address through this project?

1. **Proposed output/s to take the form of a business case, feasibility study, proof of concept or similar.**

 Describe:

* The scope of your project and the key outputs that will be developed
* The objectives of your project and how it aligns with the Partnership’s objectives
* How consistent the project is with the plans of participating councils and/or alignment with current Victorian Government policies?
1. **Be a collaborative proposal between 2 or more local governments. Applications with additional non-council partners will also be considered.**

 Describe:

* The local governments participating in the proposed activity and their respective contributions
* A rational 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

 NOTE: there is no requirement for applicant local governments to be geographically contiguous.

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

 Describe:

* How does your proposed activity seeks to reduce costs or improve services
* Provide some demonstrated benchmarking or outline cost benefits
1. **A realistic outline of both environmental and financial potential benefits of the project.**

 Describe:

* How the proposed activity will directly or indirectly benefit the environment
* What financial or service delivery benefits are anticipated to be realised by undertaking the activity
1. **Ability to assess the project’s proposed outcomes and some ability for the project to generate a replicable or shareable activity or collaborative model for local governments.**

 Demonstrate the extent to which your project:

* Trials or tests the feasibility of collaboration
* Contributes to the building of local government’s collaborative capacity and capability
* How the project’s outcomes can be assessed
* How the project benefits might be implemented or sustained once funding ceases
* Is to be implemented around proven or new collaborative model
1. **Written support of participating council CEOs**
* Support must be indicated in the form of a letter or email that specifically relates to the proposed activity
* Additional detail of related activities or council actions provided by the CEO to demonstrate endorsement and support will be considered favourably.

1. **Provision of 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 some support from *all* participants in the form of budget and/or in-kind resourcing will be considered more favourably.

Applications for Round 2 must be lodged online via the DELWP GEMS system by 9 September 2016.

To register an application visit: <https://delwp1.force.com/publicform?id=a0hU000001InDe8>

For further information regarding the program or to discuss a possible proposal please contact:

Leighton Vivian
Manager, Policy Development, Local Government Victoria
Email: leighton.vivian@delwp.vic.gov.au Phone: 03 9948 8533