

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 9:02 AM

To: IPART

Subject: IPART Review of Council Financial Model - DCCEEW Water Group Feedback on IPART Draft ToR

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft terms of reference for this review.

The department's Water Group suggests that the terms be strengthened with respect to considering:

- The matter of councils' ability to generate enough own-source revenue (i.e. customer charges) to fund the delivery of water supply and sewerage services; and
- Whether and how grant funding from the state government can adequately bridge any own source funding shortfalls and be structured to provide certainty for strategic decision-making on service and expenditure levels and accountability of decision-makers.

Regards

Local Water Utilities

Water Operations, Local Water Utilities Branch.

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Energy, the Environment and Water**

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