

**Submission  
No 1**

**EXAMINATION OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S PERFORMANCE AUDIT  
REPORTS FEBRUARY 2019 - JULY 2019**

**Organisation:** Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

**Date Received:** 23 June 2020



**Planning,  
Industry &  
Environment**

**Office of the Secretary**

MDPE20/1495

Mr Greg Piper  
Chair  
Legislative Assembly, Public Accounts Committee  
Parliament of New South Wales  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000


Via email: [pac@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pac@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Piper

Thank you for your letter of 14 May 2020 regarding the Auditor-General's performance audit report - Workforce reform in three amalgamated councils.

Please find attached the table setting out the Department's response to this audit.

Yours sincerely

  
**Jim Betts**  
**Secretary**

**23/6/20**

## IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

### Workforce reform in 3 amalgamated councils

RECOMMENDATION	ACCEPTED OR REJECTED	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	DUE DATE	STATUS (completed, on track, delayed) and COMMENT	RESPONSIBILITY (Section of agency responsible for implementation)
<p>1. The Department of Planning and Industry [sic] should develop a suite of efficiency and economy indicators and start reporting the performance of councils against these indicators to assist with benchmarking</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>a) OLG has been working on the development of a Performance Measurement Framework for councils in NSW, incorporating appropriate performance measures to assist in consistent sector-wide performance reporting.</p> <p>Work began on the development of the performance measurement framework between during 2013 and 2014. The project was placed on hold while other local government reforms were being pursued. The NSW Government has previously committed to the development of a performance measurement framework for NSW councils, and provision for such a framework has been made in previous amendments to the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i></p> <p>The timing and development process for this framework will be a matter for the Minister. It is currently anticipated that work will commence later in 2019.</p>		<p>In September 2019, the Government launched the Your Council website to allow communities to easily obtain and compare key statistics and performance data on NSW councils. The website provides comparison information for 218 data points for the 128 councils in NSW. The Office of Local Government continues to work with the local government sector to enhance the content and features of the website, and will release an improved website with updated 2018-19 data in the coming months.</p> <p>The website provides the platform for the phased development of the Performance Measurement Framework (PMF). Work on the PMF to date is being refreshed in consultation with the local government sector.</p>	<p>Planning and Assessment</p>