



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO THE ABILITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO FUND INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16 May 2024

On Friday 17 May 2024, the Upper House Standing Committee on State Development will hold its first public hearing in Sydney for its inquiry into the ability of local governments to fund infrastructure and services.

The committee will hear from several stakeholders, including representatives from the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal NSW (IPART), Valuer General NSW, Local Government Engineers Association (LGEA), United Services Union, Audit Office and the Office of Local Government.

Committee Chair, the Hon Emily Suvaal MLC, said: "This hearing is an important first step in examining the financial challenges faced by the local government sector, and the level of income councils require to adequately meet the needs of their communities. The inquiry is an opportunity to give consideration to the current levels of service delivery and financial sustainability in local government, including the impact of cost shifting, and whether this has changed over time."

Two further hearings are scheduled in Sydney on 29 May 2024 and 3 June 2024, before the committee holds hearings in regional NSW later in June.

Hearing details

The hearing will be broadcast live on the NSW Parliament's website from **9.15 am** on **Friday 17 May 2024**: [Webcasts \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/webcasts)

A hearing schedule is available on the committee's website: [Ability of local governments to fund infrastructure and services \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/webcasts)

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Emily Suvaal MLC, on (02) 9230 2731.