



Better Processes for Business

Local Government Red Tape Reduction Pilot Project

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Background

- In July 2009, Deputy Premier invited the Local Government Association (LGA) to assist in reducing red tape for business across SA
- In Sept 2009, Local Government Chief Executive Officer's Residential Seminar was held and the LGA discussed interests of Councils in participating in a *Red Tape Reduction* project
- Joint venture with DTED and LGA

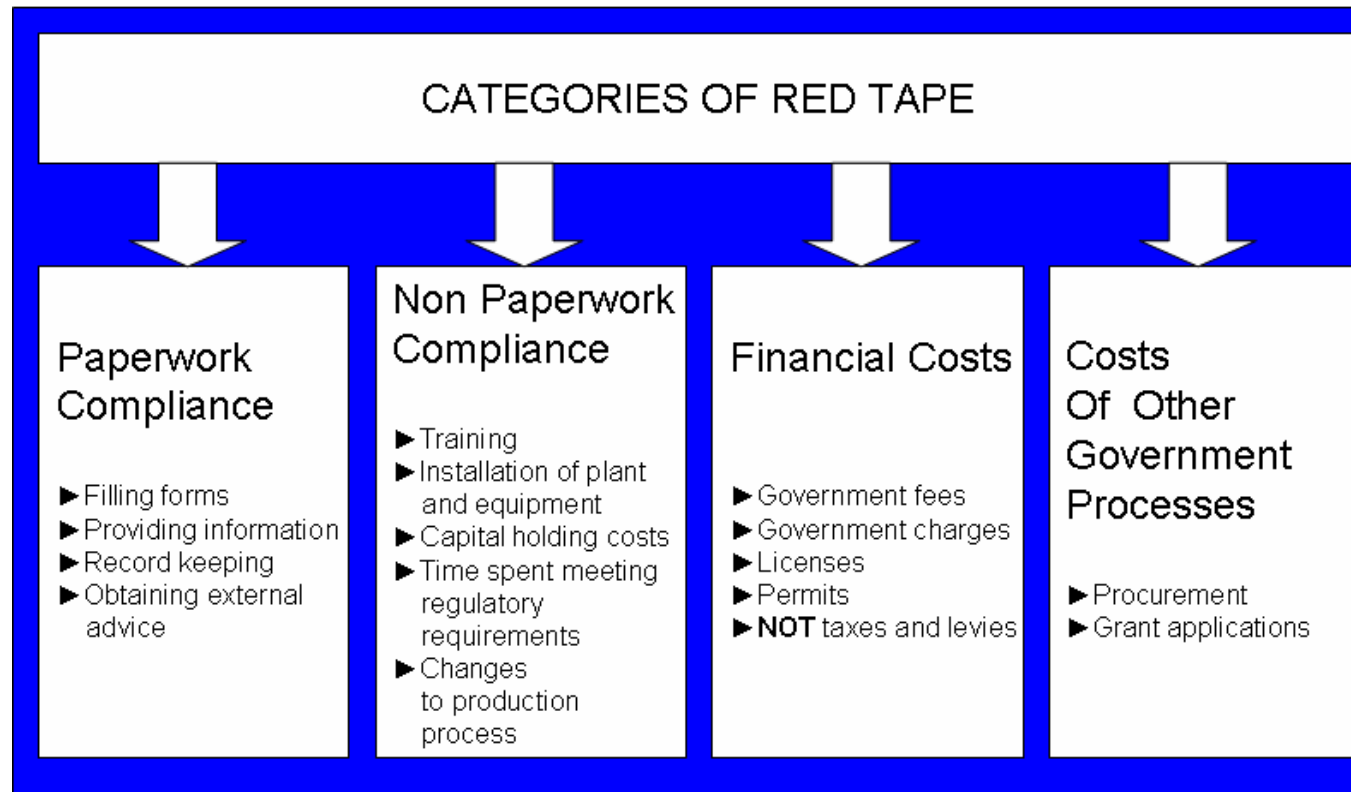
Definition of Red Tape

- Competitiveness Council's broad definition:

“The time and money spent by businesses to understand and comply with government regulations, and related processes, that are above and beyond the daily costs of running a business”

- Regulation induced delays, and permit and licence fees also counted

Categories of Red Tape



Definition of a Business

- Businesses are defined as entities that sell goods or services for profit directly to their customers
- Government business enterprises are businesses for the purpose of this definition

First Red Tape Target

- Premier announced a red tape reduction (25%) target in March 2006
- Competitiveness Council established to oversee implementation
- Dollar target - \$150m pa by July 2008
 - Result = net savings figure of \$170.1 million

New Program and Target

- Premier announced a new target on 28 April 2009
- Savings to business of a further \$150 million pa by April 2012
- Rolling 5-year review of all business regulation

Partnership with Local Government

- The Competitiveness Council suggested Local Government consider a similar process
- Envisaged LGA setting its own target for reducing red tape

Pilot Project Process

- Pilot project to focus on identifying & eliminating any non-essential (& unnecessary) Local Government procedures, processes, forms, licences & other compliance obligations that add to the cost of running a business in SA
- Councils were invited to attend a workshop in February 2010 to engage in pilot project

Workshop outcomes

- Audit what Councils are doing in regard to Red Tape Reduction (existing projects undertaken by Councils)
- Develop a template to assist Councils in audit
- Identify possible Red Tape Reduction initiatives (online payments & services, licenses, planning & building applications etc)

Workshop outcomes (cont.)

- Engagement of Councils in the program
- Councils will require assistance
- New OH&S One System, amendments to Statutes Amendment (Council Allowances) Act 2009, Local Government (Elections) (Miscellaneous) Amendments Act 2009 & Local Government (Accountability Framework) Amendment Act 2009, State Records, existing compliance

Workshop outcomes (cont.)

- Each time there is a new legislative requirement and/or compliance – estimate additional cost to Councils and ratepayers/business
- NOTE –
draft report into impact of Council regulations on Victorian business due to be released by Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission in late April

Example findings from Audit on current Council initiatives

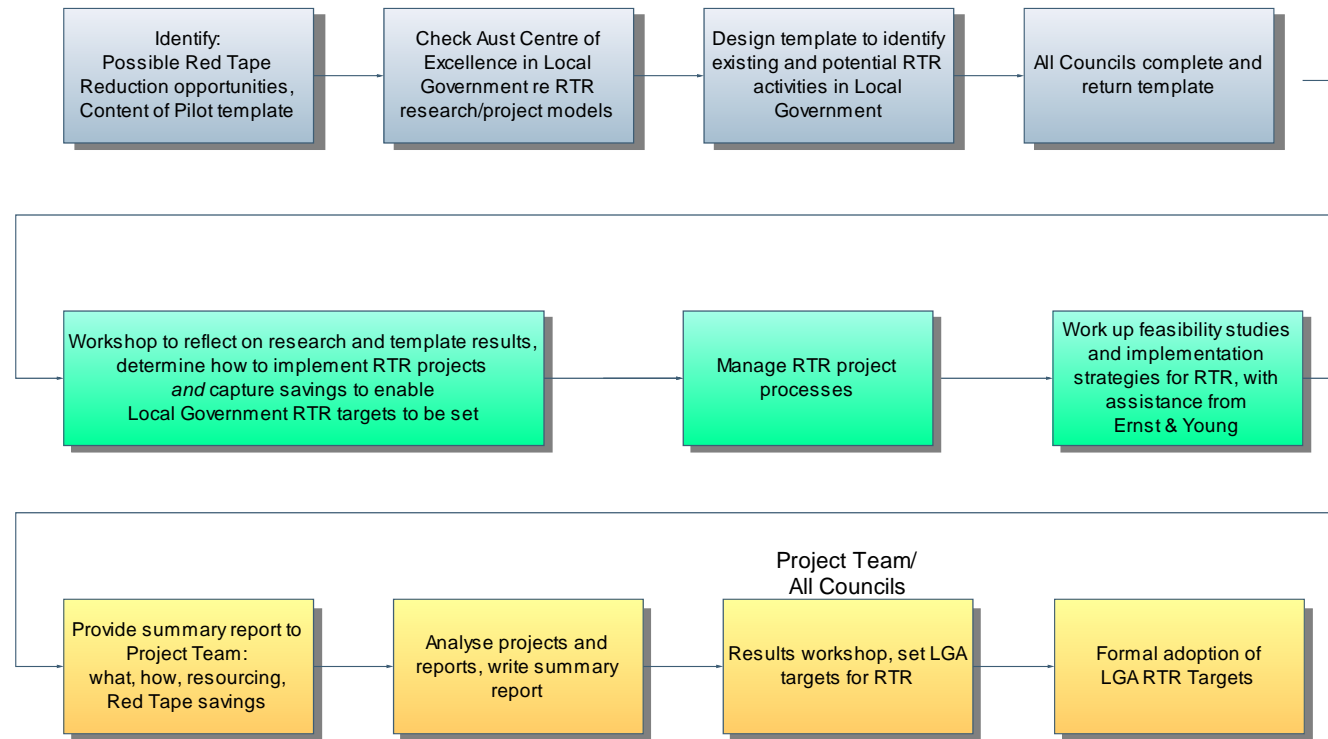
- Online services – planning, permits & payments
 - Councils receiving up to 3500 applications pa
 - These changes have saved up to \$200,000 pa

- Customer Channel Strategy and ICT Strategy
 - Previous business practices requiring 20-30 staff to manually process hard copy forms such have been reviewed to decrease manual operations and achieve efficiencies

Possible Red Tape Reduction Opportunities

- Tender Limits
- Road Rents
- Planning
- Permits for Outdoor Dining
- Waste Management

Where to from here



Workshop



Thank You