

Whyalla Forum – 6 February 2006

Definition Feedback

- Consideration needs to be given to the economic lifestyle of country regions – there are many people in the community that are asset rich and income poor.
- Community support for projects could mean that Councils don't end up meeting the definition – we need to have a definition that can provide some flexibility.
- Dot point one should include “future spending according to Councils Strategic Plan.”
- What do we mean by substantial increases, how will this be measured and should be include
- Question around including triple bottom line in the definition
- Concern with the definition and whether it increases community expectations.

Priorities/ Role of Regional LGAs

- Uniformity in depreciation
- Templates for asset management plans
- Audit Committees (establishment and roles)
- Long term Financial Plans
- Considered that the Role of Regional LGAs was more political advocacy rather than a co-ordinating role for resourcing of Councils.
- Staff resources to implement the 62 recommendations is a concern for smaller councils as is the cost of administration
- Pooling of staff resources across the region especially for specialised skills
- Regional resource sharing especially in relation to Audit committees, planning and funding models
- Common policies needed across local government and a recognition of limited revenue streams.
- Need a new approach to State/Local Government resource sharing

- Need to consider how assets are valued and we need to determine the role of debt.