

<b>Circular Details</b>	Circular No 18-01 / 9 February 2018 / A581427
<b>Previous Circular</b>	<i>Not applicable</i>
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff
<b>Contact</b>	Melissa Gibbs, Director Policy and Sector Development, <a href="mailto:melissa.gibbs@olg.nsw.gov.au">melissa.gibbs@olg.nsw.gov.au</a> ; (02) 4428 4174
<b>Action required</b>	Information

## Establishment of a Council Engagement Team

### What's new or changing

- OLG is changing the way it engages with councils.
- A key step is the establishment of a Council Engagement Team.

### What this will mean for your council

- The Council Engagement Team will:
  - work closely with councils and Joint Organisations
  - identify emerging issues and opportunities for OLG to address
  - implement programs to support improved council performance
  - build working relationships with State agencies.
- OLG will be establishing six new positions – Council Engagement Managers – to work more closely with councils across the state.

### Key points

- The Council Engagement Team will include six new Council Engagement Manager positions, whose role will be to:
  - develop and build relationships with councils and Joint Organisations
  - determine and identify emerging issues affecting councils and those that are likely to eventuate; and identify solutions and initiatives to respond
  - provide information and assistance to councils on State Government policy priorities
  - facilitate effective working relationships between State and local government agencies and improve collaboration and support
  - develop and deliver programs to support councils.
- Council Engagement Managers will travel extensively, and will work with clusters of councils on a regional basis.
- The Council Engagement Team will work closely with the Department of Premier and Cabinet's regional directors and established regional collaboration processes.
- Some Council Engagement Managers will be based in Sydney to work with councils in the metropolitan area.
- Recruitment action has commenced, and appointments should be finalised by the end of March 2018.

### Where to go for further information

- Once appointed, Council Engagement Managers will be in touch with councils to further outline their role and to discuss how councils would like to engage with the Council Engagement Team.
- In the meantime, please contact Melissa Gibbs, Director Policy and Sector Development at OLG on (02) 4428 4174 or [melissa.gibbs@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:melissa.gibbs@olg.nsw.gov.au) for further information



**Tim Hurst**  
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