



## Media Release

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETS GENDER TARGET

8 March, 2021

The national professional association for local government officers has set an ambitious gender target for the sector ahead of International Women's Day.

Local Government Professionals Australia is pushing for a gender balance of 40 percent women, 40 percent men, and 20 percent of any gender in local government leadership roles by 2025.

"There is an expectation that local government be truly representative of the communities it serves," said the local government peak body president, Victoria MacKirdy.

"Achieving gender balance at that senior level is one step toward expanding the diversity and equity of representation our sector needs."

Local Government Professionals Australia has today published frank interviews with senior executives from across Australia detailing their own professional and personal leadership stories and the progress of gender equity in the sector.

"Our office is releasing this document on International Women's Day not just to celebrate the progress the sector has made, but to explore what still needs to change," said Local Government Professionals Australia CEO, Clare Sullivan.

The organisation will be releasing a toolkit in the weeks ahead with resources to empower local governments to reach the target in their own senior leadership teams and provide opportunities to emerging leaders in their organisations.

The move follows the peak body's recent partnership with the Australian Government's Office for Women on a national program supporting women working in local government who have been financially impacted by COVID-19.

The push for gender equity is an extension of the professional association's advocacy agenda and policy platform for 2020-2022, with one key goal for local government to support and practice the principles of diversity and inclusion.

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## **Media Contact**

For more information, images and/or interview opportunities, please contact:

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## **About Local Government Professionals Australia**

Local Government Professionals Australia is the national component of the peak body representing local government professionals, with a focus on developing organisations and the broader local government sector, to build better communities around Australia.

Since the foundation of the organisation in 1936, LG Professionals Australia has created opportunities for the near 200,000 local government workforce across over 500 councils to come together to share ideas, discuss challenges and learn new ways of practice.

[www.lgprofessionalsaustralia.org.au](http://www.lgprofessionalsaustralia.org.au)

