



Workplace harassment report welcomed by local government

November 30, 2021

The peak body for local government officers welcomed the release of Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins' report into problems with parliamentary culture.

Local Government Professionals Australia CEO Catherine Carter said the recommendations on workplace harassment in the report included steps on gender balance that are already being championed in local government.

“We represent close to 200,000 people employed by 537 local councils across Australia, including nearly 300 located in regional, rural or remote areas, said Ms. Carter

“Last year, under the organisation’s immediate past National President, Victoria MacKirdy, we set a gender balance target of 40:40:20 in local government senior leadership teams to be reached by 2025 last year – that is 40 per cent men, 40 per cent women, and 20 per cent unspecified.

“New National President Jonathan Throssell is continuing work to make this a reality and create positive change in the Australian local government workforce.

“This included delivery of a \$615,000 grant from The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet’s Office for Women to increase female leadership in the local government sector.

The Local Government Women’s Future Leader Program funding is a vote of confidence in our efforts to support women in the sector.

“The program offers leadership development opportunities to women while providing support for councils to achieve the leadership gender balance target including mentoring, scholarships, board traineeships, and virtual and face-to-face event attendance, said Ms Carter

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About Local Government Professionals Australia

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

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