



# NEW GOVERNMENT WARNED - DON'T OVERLOOK LOCAL NEEDS

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## Media Release

The National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) will not rest in its campaign to secure billions of dollars in funding for social and community infrastructure in fast-growing municipalities.

The NGAA - which represents one in four Australians - congratulated the Australian Labor Party on being elected and foreshadowed more community-based campaigning as the new Government sets its priorities.

In particular, NGAA is seeking details of and involvement in the ALP's proposed Council of Australian Local Governments.

NGAA national spokesman, Cr Linton Reynolds, said that during the lead-up to the election, the ALP had recognised the need to find a long-term solution to local government funding, including in high-growth areas.

"The ALP has indicated that NGAA will have a voice on the Council of Australian Local Governments," Cr Reynolds said.

"This is encouraging and we await announcements on who will become the new Minister for Local Government as well as how the COALG will be structured.

"We are confident the ALP understands that NGAA's needs are above and beyond those of other councils and we look forward to hearing how we can work together to address this serious problem.

"Our municipalities will be home to another 1.4 million people in the next 15 years. NGAA members need to invest \$11.7 billion in social and community infrastructure to ensure new and existing residents have the facilities and services they deserve.

"Our residents need access to libraries, safe roads, pools and the recreation amenities that are the cornerstone of our local communities.

"NGAA will continue to fight for our 5.25 million residents as well as for those who continue to move into our fast-growing neighborhoods."

### **About the NGAA**

NGAA is a collective of 30 councils from metropolitan New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

NGAA councils need to spend \$11.7 billion on community infrastructure over the next 15 years and face a funding shortfall of \$3.1 billion.

**For more information visit [www.fundthegap.org](http://www.fundthegap.org)**

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