

Fact Sheet 01

Council Services



These sheets and more information available at www.lga.sa.gov.au

July 2012

Your Council provides services to help you and other members of your community in the way that you live, work and play. Councils consult widely and prepare strategic management plans, which guide their annual programs. Services can vary greatly from one Council to another depending on the community expectations and the area's location, geography and development patterns.

The 68 Councils in South Australia spend more than \$1.7 billion a year, about half of which goes on roads and drainage, but also includes waste and recycling, sport, recreation and cultural activities and on library and information services. Many of our services, such as stormwater drainage, are largely invisible, but they may prevent flooding in local streets every year.

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Did you know?

Combined, South Australian Councils invest more than \$1.7 billion a year in infrastructure & services.

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What Services do Councils provide?

Councils provide many services to the community, some of which are legislated and others which are provided by choice. Councils in South Australia operate under the Local Government Act 1999, the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 and many other pieces of legislation.

Council services required by legislation include:

- planning and development services
- some environmental health services, including inspections on public

swimming pools

- some fire prevention activities relating to buildings and land
- administrative requirements, including preparing and implementing strategic plans, maintaining an office, employing a Chief Executive Officer and supporting the elected Council

Services undertaken or funded by many Councils are done by choice and may include:

- Libraries
 - Control of public nuisances
 - Monitoring of unsanitary conditions
 - Food safety inspections
 - Immunisation
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Did you know?

Councils pay for the electricity used for street lights. The annual cost to Councils is in the millions.

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Whether a service is a State legislated requirement of Councils, or is provided by local choice, the Local Government Act requires that a Council is "responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within its community..." and that it must "...seek to ensure that Council resources are used fairly..." (Section 8, (b) and (h)).

A Council Services Story: On Saturday morning, you wake up and decide to cycle down the **road** to the **beach** for a quick swim and take a walk along the **jetty**. Heading home along the **bike-path**, you decide to stop by your **local library** and browse on the **internet** and check out that **book** you have been meaning to read. Later on you head down to the local **oval** to watch a game of footy and use the **community grill** to have a BBQ with a few friends as the kids play on the **playground** in the **park** nearby.



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Local Government Association of South Australia

Council Services and Activities

Aged Services

- Abandoned Vehicles
- Arts & Cultural Programs

Bicycle Tracks

- Building Applications and Approvals
- Bus Shelters
- Bushfire Prevention
- Burning Permits
- Busking Permits
- By-laws

Caravan Parks

- Cemeteries
- Children's Services & Support
- Coastcare and Dunecare
- Community Buses
- Community Centres
- Community Leadership & Advocacy
- Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS)
- Control of Public Nuisances
- Cultural Development

Dog & Cat Management

- Disability Services

Economic Development & Business Support

- Employment/Training Programs
- Environmental Services
- European Wasp Control

Fencing – Council land/Reserves

- Festivals & Events
- Fire Prevention
- Food & Health Inspections
- Footpaths
- Free Internet in Libraries

Graffiti Control

Heritage Protection

Immunisations

Libraries

- Local Museums & Heritage
- Local Roads

Online Services

- On Street Parking
- Ovals – Maintenance

Parking Regulations & Infringements

- Parks & Gardens
- Planning Applications
- Playground Maintenance
- Public Swimming Pools
- Public Toilet Maintenance

Rates

- Recreation & Sport Facilities
- Recycling
- Reserves & Picnic Areas

Skate Parks

- Stormwater Drainage & Reuse
- Street Cleaning
- Street Lighting
- Street Signs

Tourism & Information Centres

- Traffic Control

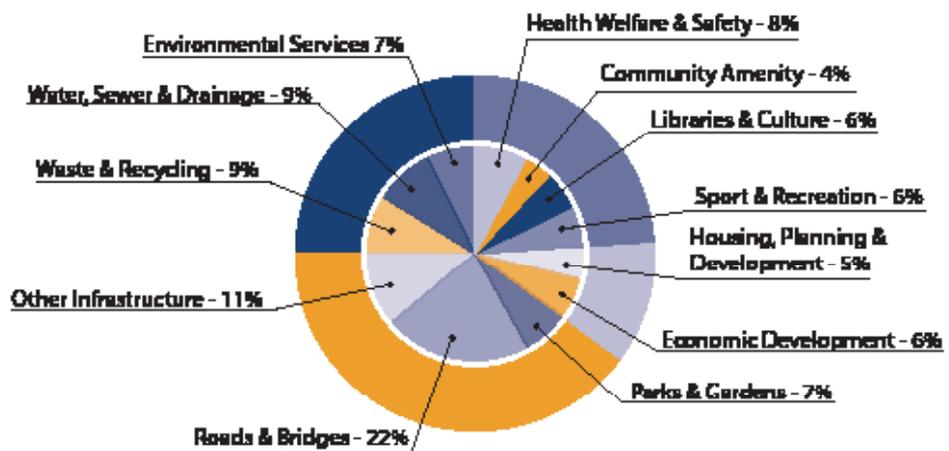
Vermin Control

Waste Management

Youth Support

Zoning

Council Outlays (Operating and Capital) by Function



Outer Circle Legend

