



# LGMA Queensland Villages

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LGMA Queensland has fostered the development of Villages as a method of providing representation and support to specialist practitioners working across local government in Queensland.

Each Village has been set up for a special interest group within local government and enables members to link with professionals in other Queensland areas who are undertaking similar functions. The Villages provide a valuable forum for members to share information and knowledge, seek professional development opportunities, establish best practice standards across the sector and identify opportunities for expert input. To further facilitate information sharing and networking opportunities, each Village will also conduct a number of events throughout the year.

Village members are provided with access to a 'Member Only' area within the LGMA Queensland website which contains the goals and objectives of the Village, a library containing interesting articles, references and templates, a section for News and Upcoming Events and an open forum for members to ask questions of the group and share information directly.

The Villages, on an on-going basis, will have the opportunity to develop and provide advice on key issues in Queensland local government to the LGMA Queensland Board and other stakeholders. They will also seek to influence policy and practice through the development of submissions and the provision of targeted training.

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## Planning and Performance Village

This Village was initiated by officers working in the internal planning areas of council. Members of this Village are generally responsible for the internal planning processes of council (including the new Community Planning process) and activities associated with performance reporting against those plans. The Village meets regularly to discuss issues and ideas and also provides advice to the LGMA Queensland board to inform its discussions with the state government on local government reporting and other related matters.

## Customer Service Village

Membership of this Village is predominantly officers working in customer service roles or managing customer service staff. The Village seeks to identify and discuss best practice customer service and investigate technological tools to enhance service provision. The Village also participates in benchmarking surveys, shares experiences and templates and distributes articles of interest.

## Human Resources Village

Membership of this Village is predominantly officers working within the Human Resource areas of council. The Village meets regularly to discuss and debate current trends in HR management, generate new ideas as well as providing networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities. This Village also shares a range of tools and templates and provides advice to LGMA Queensland on the human resource impacts of different policies and proposals being considered at a local, state and federal level.

## Corporate Services Village

This Village was initiated by officers working in areas generally known as corporate services. This Village has the broadest membership and covers many different roles of council. The members of this village felt a need to network with other people doing similar roles and to discuss corporate structures, division of work within council, governance and risk management to name just a few areas.

## Libraries Village

Membership of this village is predominantly officers from libraries. The Village meets to consider best practice in library management with members presenting their own experiences as well as sourcing expert presenters from outside local government. The Libraries Village also participates in benchmarking surveys, shares experiences and templates and distributes articles of interest.

## Women in Local Government Village

This Village provides a forum for people working in local government to share experiences and to discuss and progress issues that relate to women working in local government. This includes discussion and analysis of the factors that contribute to the very low levels of participation by women in senior management roles in Queensland councils. Members of this Village are both male and female and together they regularly undertake professional development and networking functions in a supported and collegiate environment.



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## Office Professionals Village

This Village was developed to support and assist those officers that are currently working in a support role within any area of local government. Members of this Village may include, but are not limited to, Departmental Administration Officers and Executive Assistants. With an aim of fostering collaboration, this Village shares a range of tools and templates as well as knowledge and experiences and networks on a regular basis to ensure continued education across the sector.

## Procurement Village

Members of the Procurement Village are predominantly officers holding procurement or purchasing roles within local government. The objective of this Village is to provide an opportunity for the group to network, discuss emerging procurement and contract management trends as well as provide a forum for information exchange and professional development. The Procurement Village also participates in benchmarking surveys, shares experiences and templates and distributes articles of interest.

## Governance Village

This Village provides a network for those working in the area of governance and aims to support, promote and develop local government practitioners and professionals whilst positively contributing to governance practice within the industry. Members of this Village seek to identify and discuss current governance issues including access to information, codes of conduct and legislative changes as well as providing networking and knowledge sharing opportunities. The Governance Village will also provide further advice and assistance to the LGMA Queensland Board when appropriate.

## Information Technology Village

This Village was developed with an aim of fostering a co-ordinated approach to information technology across Queensland local government. Members of this Village are involved in the development and maintenance of systems and information technology within Councils including online communications as well as customer interfacing systems such as VOIP. The Information Technology Village shares tools and templates as well as experiences and learning's whilst networking with others who hold a similar role and responsibility.

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## Benefits of Village Membership

As a Village Member, you will:

- Have access to a specific Village within the LGMA Queensland website which includes:
  - An online Forum for discussion and Q & A
  - A library containing interesting articles, information and templates
  - Information on upcoming meetings and networking events
  - Village Member listing
- Have access to a network of local government professionals with the same interests, dedication and passion for local government.
- Attend meetings and networking events at the Village Member rate.
- Share and access information, knowledge and templates with others in your field to assist you in your council's development and improvement as well as that of the sector as a whole.
- Receive information on upcoming meetings, networking events and professional development opportunities through electronic eNewsletters and correspondence.

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## Cost of Village Membership

Membership to the LGMA Villages is FREE, with each Village being specific to special interest groups within local government. We encourage members to join the Villages that best suit your current position.

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## Further Information

If you would like further information on the LGMA Queensland Villages or would like to become a member, please contact the LGMA Queensland office on 07 3000 2288. Further information can also be obtained from the LGMA Queensland website, [www.lgmaql.org.au](http://www.lgmaql.org.au).

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