

PARTNERSHIPS AND FUNDING REFORM

GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL FACT SHEET



The challenge: Strengthening partnerships and funding for local government

Local government is on the frontline of delivering essential services and infrastructure, but our capacity is limited by outdated funding models and regulatory constraints. Population growth, rising costs, and increasing community expectations are placing pressure on councils to do more with less.

Without reform and strong partnerships, we risk widening service gaps, delaying critical projects, and reducing liveability for our communities.

Our advocacy priorities

1. Restore fair funding for councils:

- Restore at least 50:50 funding for core services like libraries, maternal and child health, and school crossings.
- Cover new costs from state reforms — including waste, cladding rectification, and planning system changes.
- Link rate caps to the Local Government Cost Index and actual service delivery costs so they reflect real-world pressures.
- Restore Federal Financial Assistance Grants to one per cent of national tax revenue.

2. Mandate developer contributions for community benefit:

- Seeking Victorian Government commitment to introduce mandatory developer contribution frameworks that reflect the true cost of infrastructure and support council financial sustainability.

3. Value the voice of councils in reform:

- Ensure genuine and early engagement and co-design processes in policy reform and strategic planning.
- Embed councils in reform processes so policies are practical, grounded, and responsive to community needs.

4. Expand procurement and delivery partnerships:

- Expand procurement partnerships to maximise value for communities, improve service delivery, and capitalise on collective goals.
- Share infrastructure delivery by working alongside councils to plan, fund, and build the local facilities our communities need—and create ongoing funding streams to support this work over time.

5. Policy outcomes sought

- Fairer funding models that help councils continue delivering essential services without overburdening ratepayers.
- Mandatory developer contributions that fund essential infrastructure and community benefit.
- Stronger partnerships that unlock better outcomes — from waste reform to infrastructure delivery — by leveraging local knowledge and capacity.
- Embedding councils in reform processes to ensure policies are practical, grounded, and responsive to community needs.

Why government partnership is essential

Councils know their communities best and are committed to delivering the things that matter most but need governments to work with us and give us a seat at the table so that together, we can reform outdated funding models and deliver for our growing communities.



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Community impact

Fair funding and strong partnerships will enable councils to deliver essential services, infrastructure, and programs that meet the needs of growing communities. These changes will maintain liveability, reduce service gaps, and create a stronger, more resilient Glen Eira.

Key data and context

- **Population growth:** Glen Eira's population is projected to grow by 30,000 people by 2036, increasing demand for services and infrastructure.
- **Funding gap:** Current funding mechanisms do not cover the true cost of service delivery, placing strain on council budgets.
- **Partnership potential:** Collaborative models reduce duplication, close service gaps, and improve long-term outcomes for communities.

To read the *Advocacy Priorities 2025–2026*, scan the QR code or visit www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/advocacy



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