

**PRESENTATION TO**  
WA LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTION & TRADE EXHIBITION  
4 AUGUST 2017

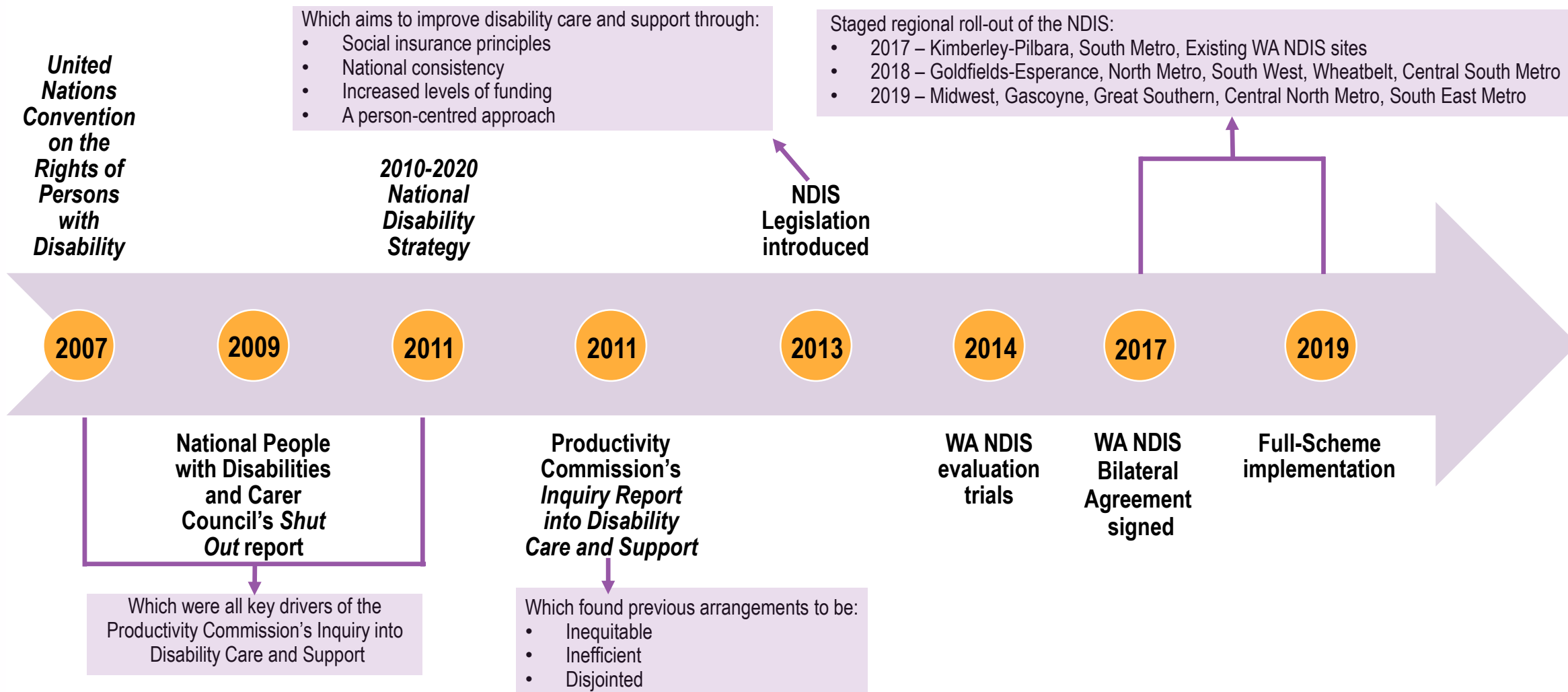


# **THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER THE NDIS**

REPORT FINDINGS

JOHN NICOLAOU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# STATE OF PLAY





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# LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND THE NDIS

# 1

# 1. DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLANS



- ▲ The core disability related function of all Local Governments is to develop and implement DAIPs, which is a legislative requirement of the *Disability Services Act 1993* (WA). The DAIPs developed and implemented by Local Government identify barriers to access for people with disability in the local community, and include strategies and activities aimed at ensuring their communities are accessible and inclusive for people with disability.

## IMPACT OF THE NDIS

- ▲ Under the NDIS, Local Governments will still have an obligation (as specified in the *National Disability Strategy*) to ensure that their communities are accessible and inclusive for people with disability.
- ▲ The introduction of the NDIS will support Local Governments in implementing the strategies and activities outlined in their DAIPs as some of the activities they undertake will be eligible to receive ILC grant funding.

## 2. DISABILITY SERVICES FUNDED THROUGH THE HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM



- ▲▲ The primary avenue through which Local Governments provide disability services is the HACC Program, which provides support services to people with disability to assist them to continue living independently at home.
- ▲▲ The Local Governments that currently provide these services do so primarily because there are a lack of private providers that provide these services in their communities.

### IMPACT OF THE NDIS

- ▲▲ If Local Governments currently provide HACC services to people with disability who are eligible for the NDIS, once these people move into NDIS, Local Governments will either have to:
  - ▲▲ Cease providing these services
  - ▲▲ Become a registered WA NDIS provider to continue to provide these services
  - ▲▲ Not become a registered provider but continue to provide these services by being selected by people who self-manage their funding to be their service provider

### 3. DISABILITY SERVICES FUNDED THROUGH THE DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION



Apart from the HACCC program, some Local Governments also provide services to people with disability that are funded by the DSC, which includes accommodation support, community focussed supports, learning and skills development, recreational programs, and family support such as respite care.

#### IMPACT OF THE NDIS



Under the NDIS, accommodation support, community focussed supports (non-HACC), and family supports will no longer be funded by the DSC. These services will be provided and funded by the NDIS in the future. If Local Governments currently provide these services to people with disability, once these people move into the NDIS, Local Governments will either have to:



Cease providing these services



Become a registered WA NDIS provider to continue to provide these services



Not become a registered provider but continue to provide these services by being selected by people who self-manage their funding to be their service provider

## 4. INFORMATION AND ADVISORY SERVICES

- ▲▲ The provision of information and advisory services to people with disability is a function undertaken by all Local Governments, with it being a requirement of DAIPs to make information accessible for people with disability.

### IMPACT OF THE NDIS

- ▲▲ Local Governments will still be required to undertake their DAIP responsibilities, which includes the provision of accessible information to people with disability that is relevant to their community.
- ▲▲ Under the NDIS, Local Governments will be better supported to undertake this function, with:
  - ▲▲ ILC grant based funding having the potential to fund some of these activities
  - ▲▲ The Local Coordinator role supplementing the information provision work that Local Governments do



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# LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISABILITY SECTOR PROFILE

# 2



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISABILITY SECTOR PROFILE

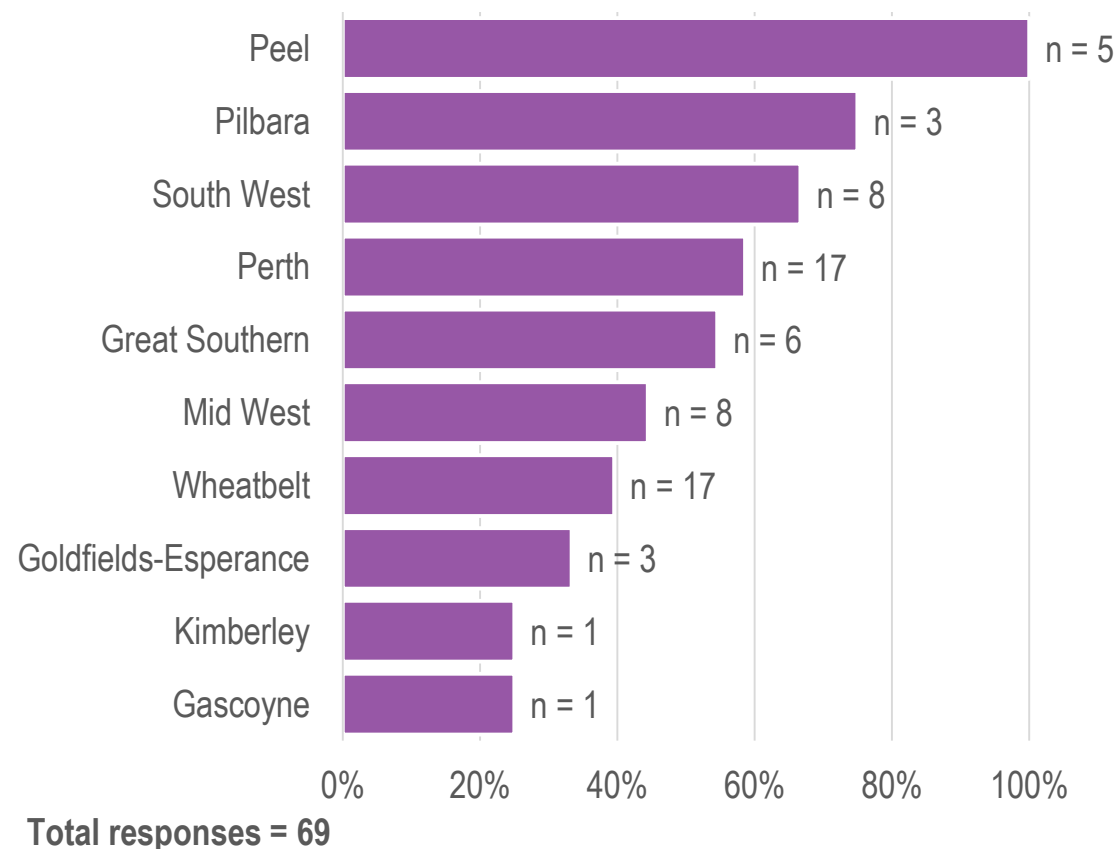
ACIL Allen developed a *Local Government Disability Sector Profile*, which provided an understanding of the **disability sector performance and outlook of Local Governments**, and its overall **strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats**.

A survey of WA's Local Governments to understand their perspectives and viewpoints on how the NDIS will impact their current level of disability sector participation and service delivery.

A SWOT analysis undertaken by ACIL Allen, which included:

- A performance tool that assessed the competitive positioning of Local Governments in the WA disability sector
- A series of strategic questions in the *Local Government Disability Sector Survey*

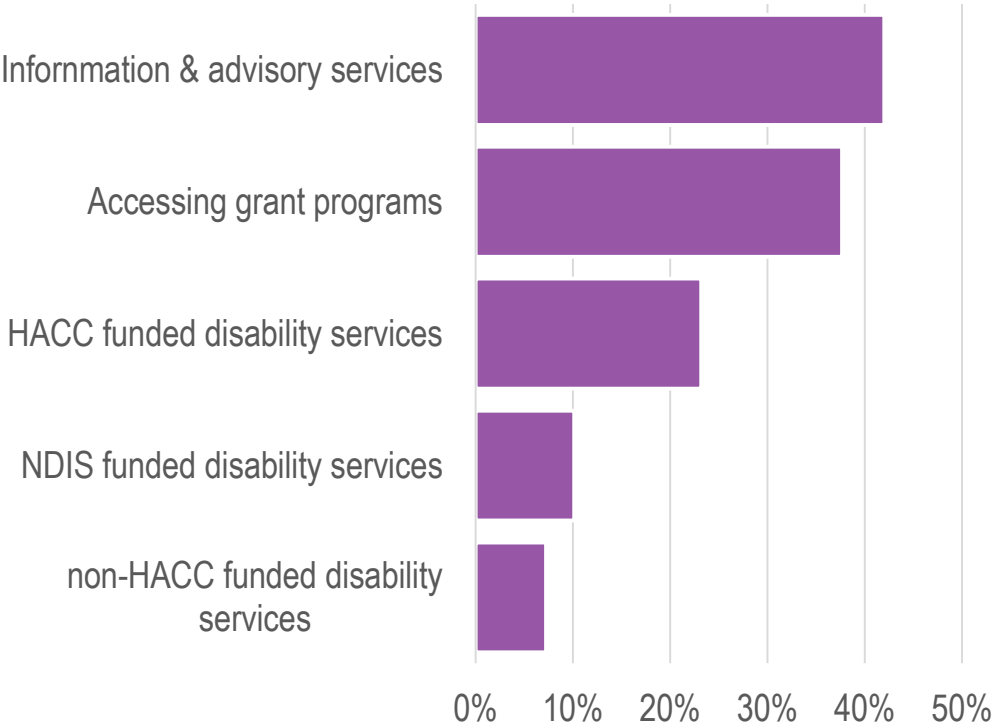
Local Government survey response rate by region



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISABILITY SECTOR PARTICIPATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY

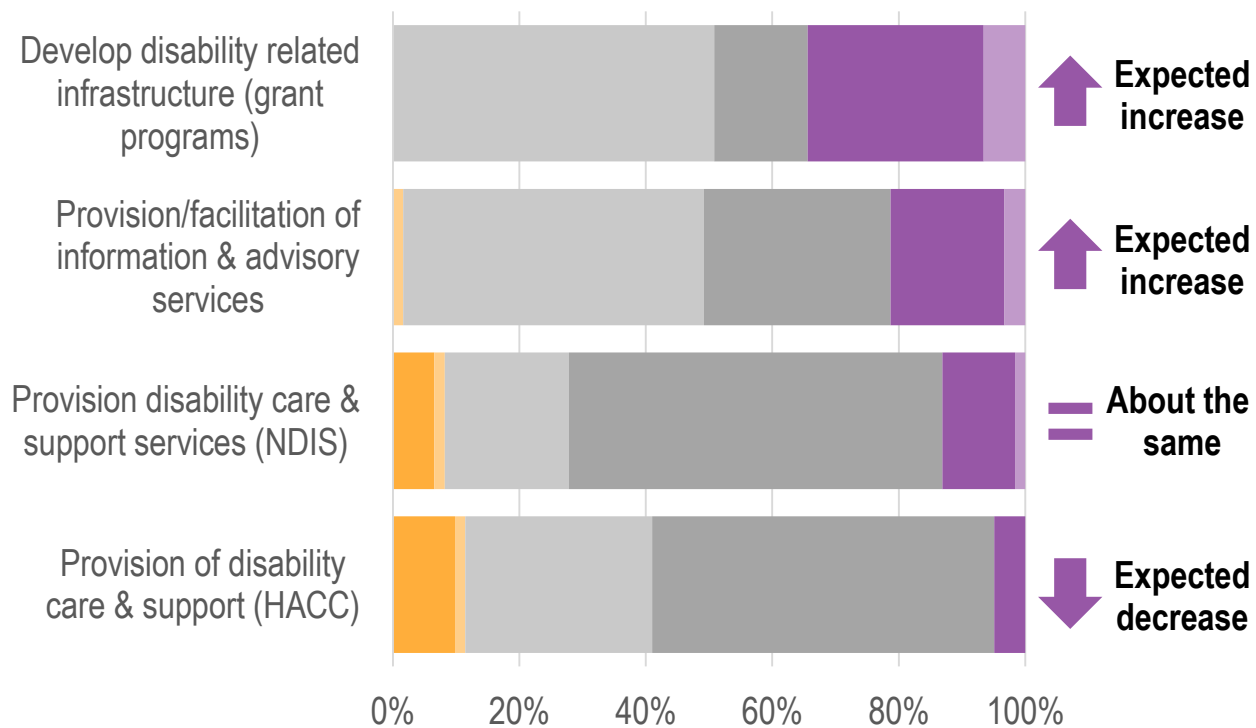


What areas are Local Governments currently involved in?



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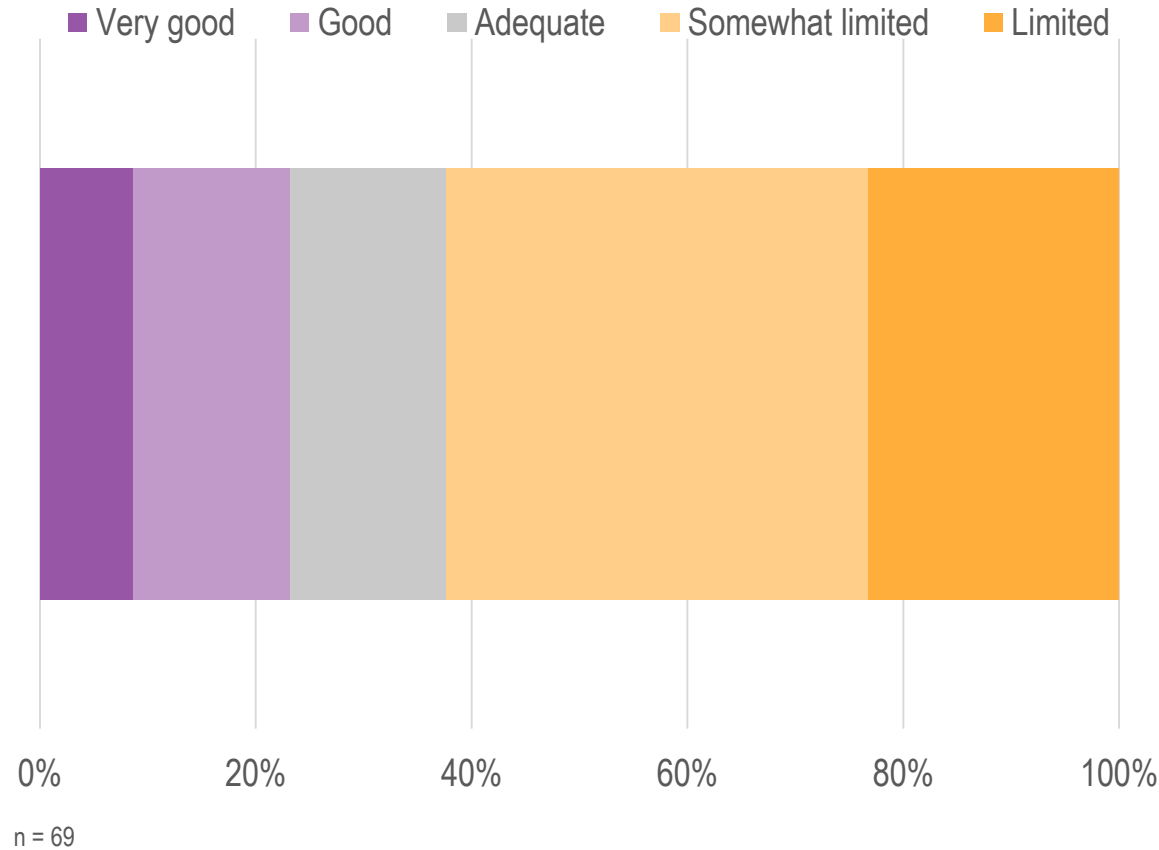
What areas do Local Governments expect to be involved in?



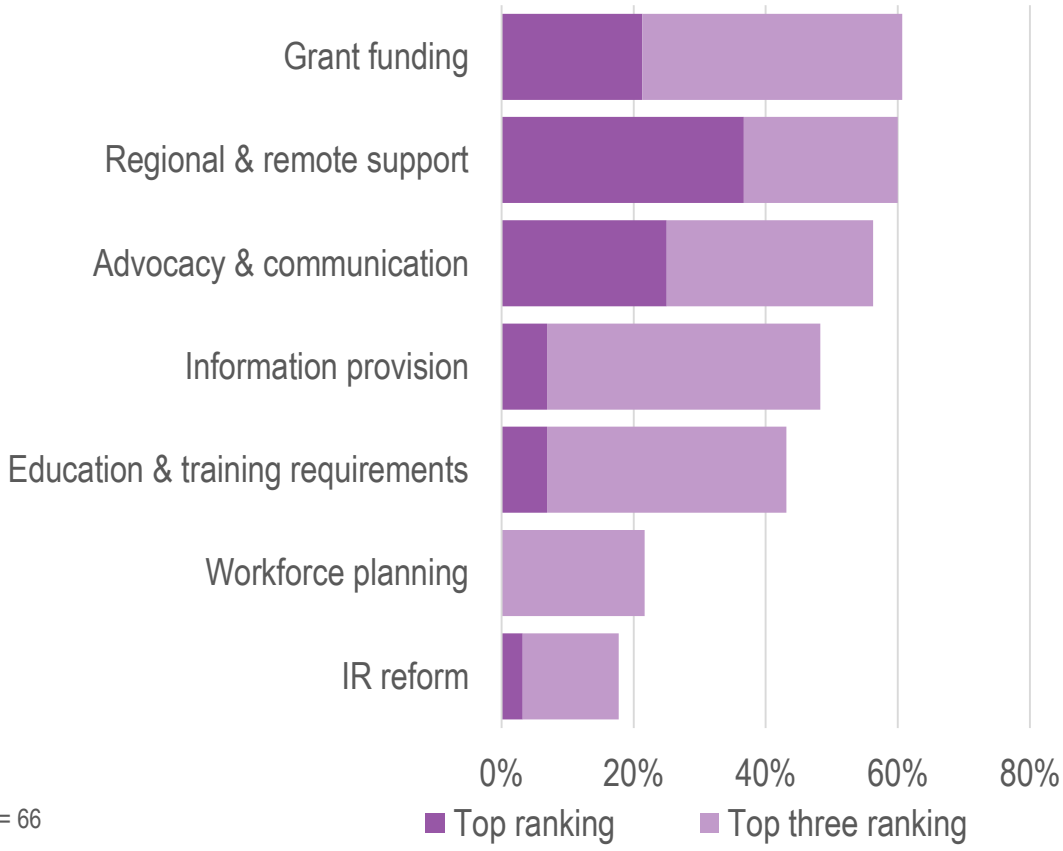
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# LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE NDIS

## What level of understanding do Local Governments have of the NDIS?

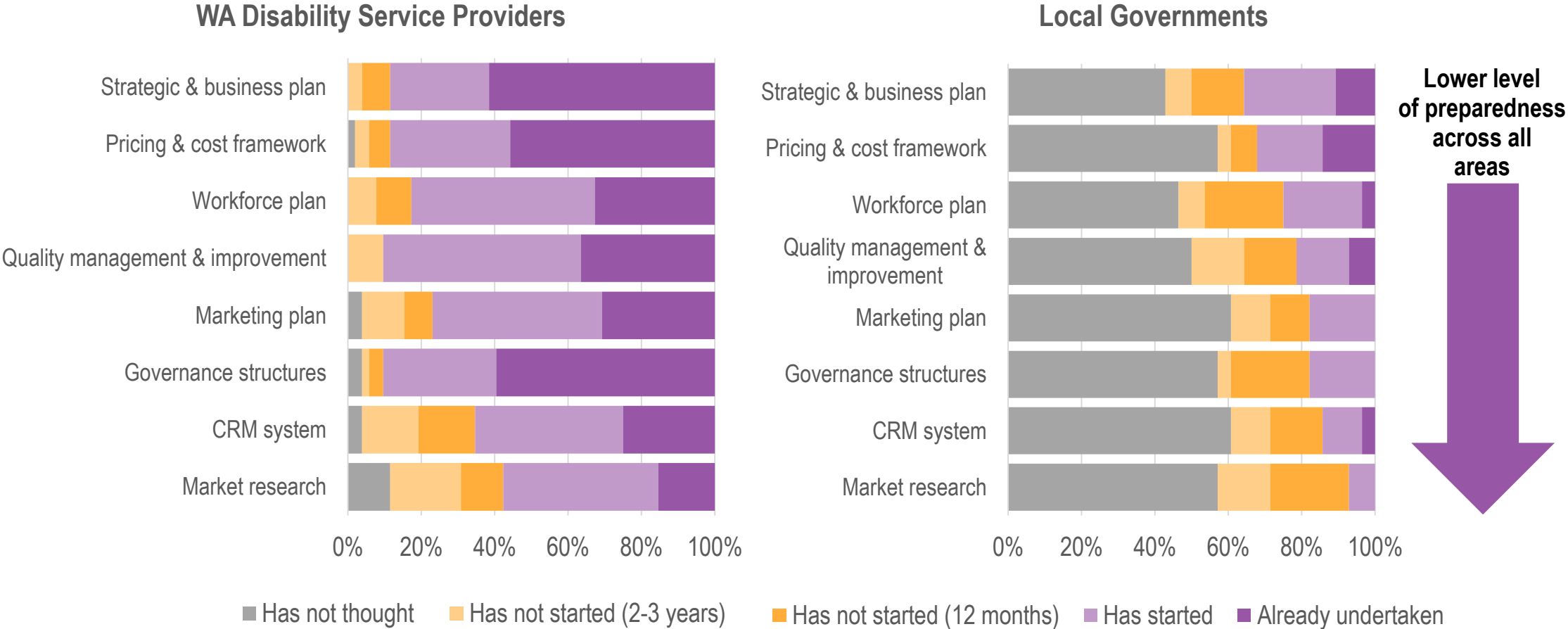


## Where do Local Governments need assistance?



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISABILITY SECTOR POSITIONING

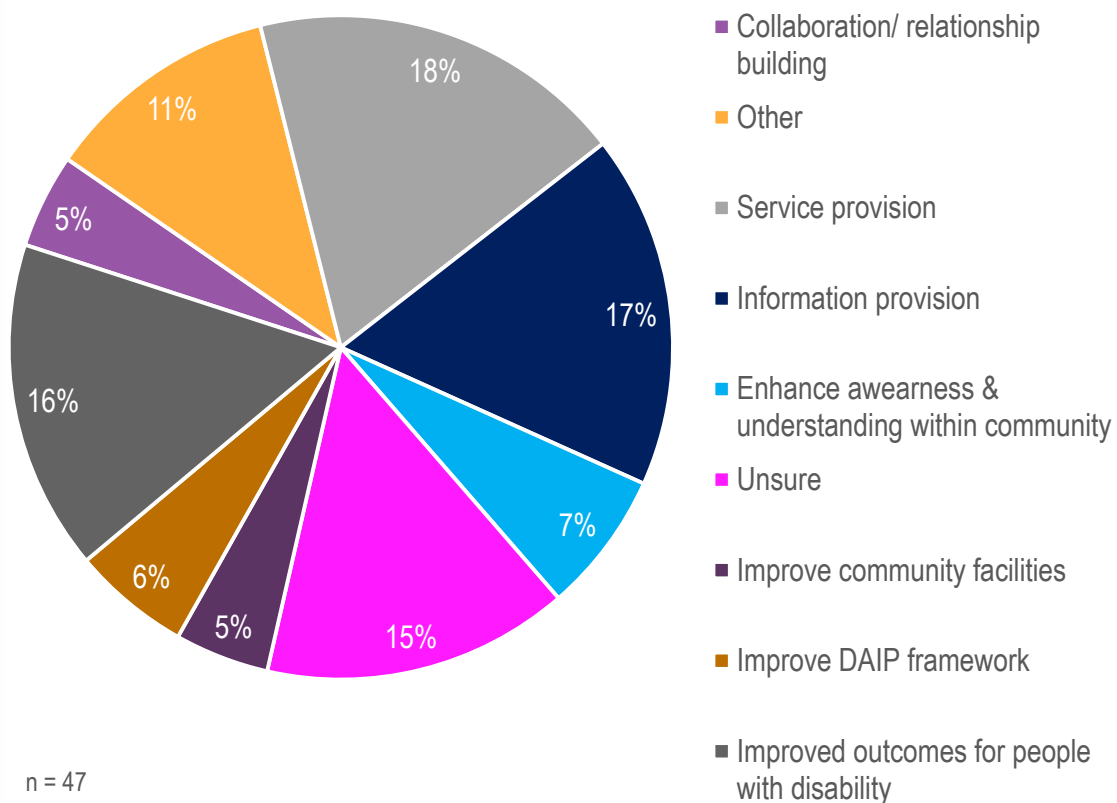
How are Local Governments positioned against WA disability sector service providers?



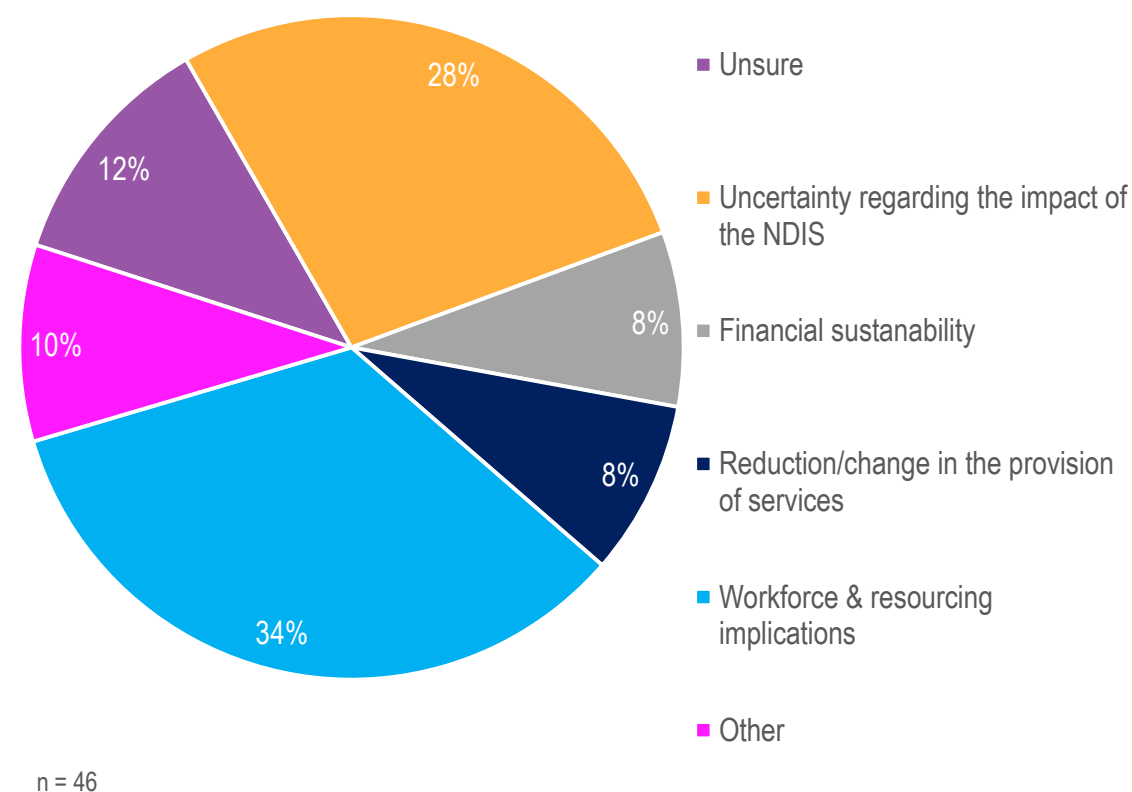
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# LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

## Local Government future NDIS opportunities



## Local Government future NDIS challenges



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT SWOT

## Strengths

- Local Governments are **trusted organisations** within the community
- Local Governments have a strong **history in providing essential services** to citizens
- Local Governments are **required to improve the accessibility and inclusiveness** of their communities

## Weaknesses

- A **limited understanding of**, and a low level of preparedness for, **the NDIS**
- The delivery of disability services is **not typically a core Local Government service**
- Financial and capability constraints**

## Opportunities

- Information, linkages and capacity building** funding for Local Government activities
- Local Coordination** supplementing and supporting Local Governments
- Local Governments could potentially take on **Local Coordination roles**
- Local Governments could act as a **provider of last resort**

## Threats

- Local Governments are **not well positioned** to be a direct provider of disability services in a **competitive environment**
- Uncertainty** on the details of the future WA NDIS model



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

# 3

# RECOMMENDATIONS

ACIL Allen has developed a short list of key recommendations, which aim to ensure WA's Local Governments are able to assume a level of disability sector participation that is consistent with their overarching purpose to meet community needs that are either not adequately met, or cannot be adequately met, by the private sector or higher levels of government.

## 1. The achievement and progression of DAIP outcomes

- Local Governments should **seek to access ILC grant funding** for information, linkages and capacity building activities.
- Local Governments should **enhance their relationships and collaboration with Local Coordinators** in the community and/or employ staff to assume the role of Local Coordinators in the community.

## 2. The provision of NDIS funded disability services

- Local Governments should only provide NDIS services as a **provider of last resort**, such as in regional and remote communities.
- The WA NDIS authority (or whoever replaces this authority if the WA NDIS Bilateral Agreement is cancelled) should **develop a market analysis tool and intervention framework** to assess market health, market risk, intervention criteria and responses.

## 3. The provision of HACC funded disability services

- Local Governments should continue to **provide HACC funded disability services to people not eligible for the NDIS** (e.g. people over the age of 65).





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# LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY

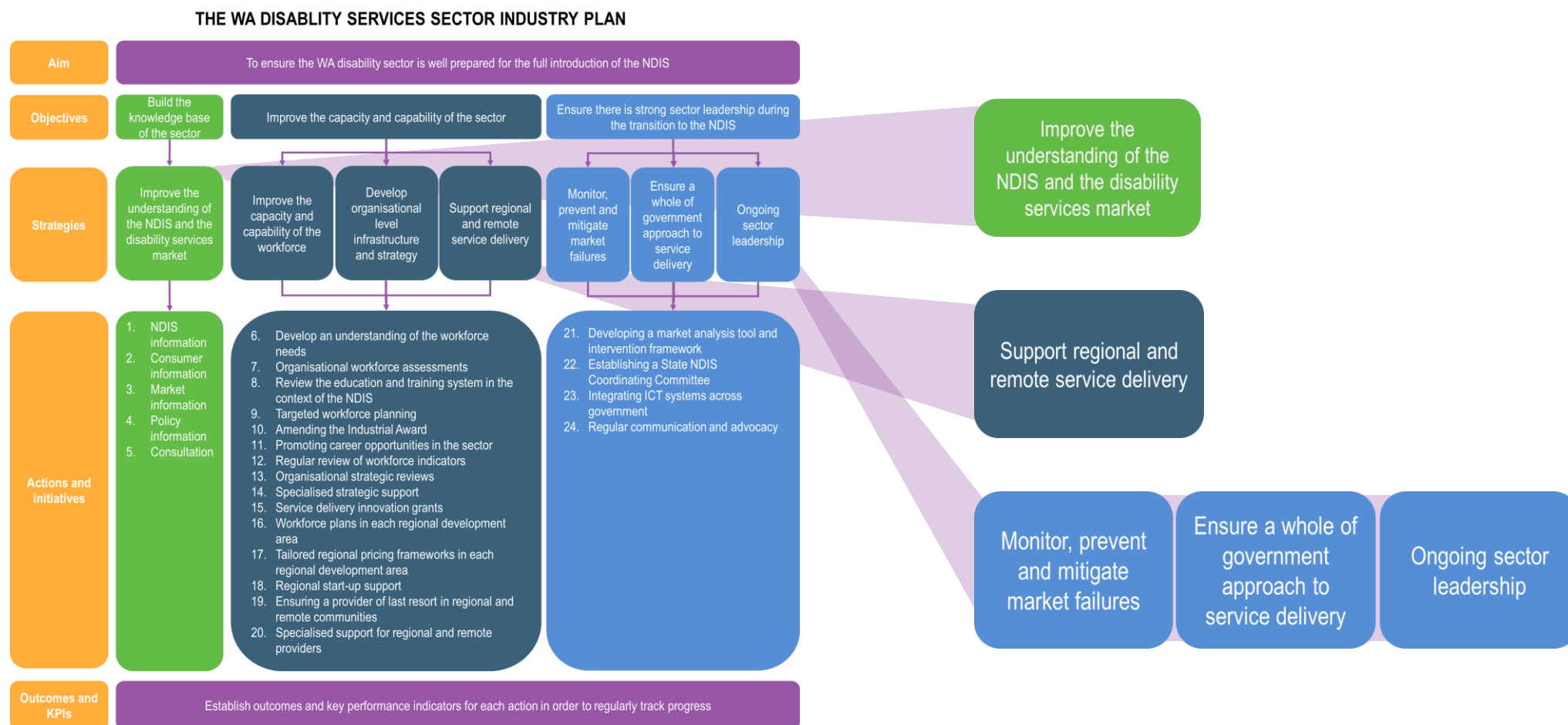
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# THE WA NDIS INDUSTRY PLAN



- ▲▲ In July 2016, National Disability Services (WA) commissioned ACIL Allen Consulting to develop an *NDIS: WA Disability Services Sector Development Plan* (Industry Plan) that will **provide a clear framework for the WA disability sector to transition to full National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) implementation in WA.**
- ▲▲ Three key strategic themes emerged through ACIL Allen's engagement that provide an overall view of the challenges currently facing the sector during the transition to the NDIS, and the areas that required consideration when developing forward-looking recommendations for the sector:
  - ▲▲ The need to build the **knowledge** base of the WA disability sector, including its understanding of the NDIS, people with disability and the broader industry.
  - ▲▲ The **capacity and capability** of the WA disability sector must be built and enhanced during the transition to the NDIS, including the sector's workforce, its regional services provision, and the current capacity and capability of the sector's organisations.
  - ▲▲ The transition to the NDIS in WA requires ongoing sector **leadership** to address areas of market failures and to drive for necessary policy and legislative change.

# THE WA NDIS INDUSTRY PLAN



# ABOUT ACIL ALLEN

▲ Largest Australian owned, independent, economic, public policy, and public affairs management consulting firm in Australia. We advise companies, institutions and governments on economics, policy and corporate public affairs management.

▲ We provide senior advisory services that bring unparalleled strategic thinking and real world experience to bear on problem solving and strategy formulation. We are differentiated by our highly analytical and objective approach and a focus on pragmatic long term solutions to our client's problems and issues.

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