# 15 Hours Kindergarten

**Resolution:**

That State Council notes:

1. Its long-standing and successful advocacy that contributed to all States and Territories recently committing to call on the Federal Government to provide recurrent funding for 15 hours of kindergarten
2. The release of the landmark *Lifting Our Game* Report and Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools through Early Childhood Interventions, which found that:
   1. Investing in early childhood education pays off in the long run – with a return of $2 to $4 for every dollar invested, and
   2. While the benefits of investing in the early years are widely accepted internationally, Australia fails to invest early and pays for it later.

The State Council therefore request that the President write to all Mayors and CEOs in Victorian Councils, as well as their counterparts in each State and Territory recommending that all Councils join the I Love Kinder Facebook, Twitter and internet campaign in the lead-up to the 2018 ALGA National General Assembly to present a strong and united front to the Federal Government.

Finally, State Council notes:

1. That its long-standing view that more State and Federal Government funding should be provided to assist Councils to upgrade ageing infrastructure from which 15 hours kindergarten is delivered is still outstanding, and
2. Requests the MAV Board further consider what future steps might be taken to highlight this ongoing concern.

# Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria

**Resolution:**

That the MAV, call upon the State Government to financially support regional waste and resource recovery management for advanced waste and resource recovery treatment and processing solutions that:

1. Minimise waste to landfill
2. Minimise transport distances for municipal residual waste.

# Derelict Buildings

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the Victorian Government for appropriate legislation to provide Councils with adequate powers to resolve the issue of derelict buildings by:

1. Amending the Building Act 1993 to modify the onerous requirements to achieve more timely and cost effective resolutions of dilapidated buildings; or
2. Enacting any other specific legislation or regulatory instrument that will enable Councils to successfully resolve these matters.

# Infrastructure Contribution Plan Standard Levies

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls for the implementation of the Infrastructure Contribution Plan standard levies across established areas of Melbourne as well as in outer suburban growth areas.

# Enhanced relations with other Local Government organisations within Victoria

**Resolution:**

That the MAV is to approach the Victorian Local Government Association, and other regional local government groups throughout Victoria, with a view to strengthening and creating a more synergetic environment

# Greater liquor and gambling controls for local government

**Resolution:**

That the MAV proposes to the Victorian Parliament for greater powers and instruments to enable local government, as opposed to unelected bureaucrats and bodies, to make local decisions on local liquor and gambling licences. This is to also include the ability for local governments to propose moratoriums on liquor and gambling permits in ‘high risk’ areas where there is demonstrated economic and social disadvantage.

# Marketing

**Resolution:**

That the MAV develops and implements a strategic marketing and advertising campaign to positively promote the activities and work of local councils across Victoria.

# **Inclusion of a Compensation Clause Within the Victorian Tenancies Act 1997**

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to State Government for inclusion of a Compensation clause within the Victorian Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (currently under review), to ensure residents within caravan parks where closure is proposed, are supported.

# Continuation of Funding for Building Inclusive Communities Program (MetroAccess and RuralAccess)

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government Minister for Disability to commit to ongoing funding for the Building Inclusive Communities (MetroAccess and RuralAccess) program.

# Cost shift to Local Government by the State Government Regarding the Resolution of Non-Compliant Combustible Cladding in Buildings

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) advocate to the Minister for Planning to give the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) the powers of a Municipal Building Surveyor (MBS) to enforce the non-compliant cladding issue to address and rectify the highly dangerous combustible cladding which has been used in construction of high rise residential and public buildings in order to avoid a potential loss of life and property

# Street Lighting Upgrades

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria call upon the State Government to fund street lighting upgrades on main roads for all municipalities to make sure new lighting is sustainable, well designed, suitably located and meets the Australian Standards for lighting

# Installation of Smart Poles

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) call upon the State Government to enter into cost-sharing arrangements with local governments to install Smart Poles in key locations, particularly designated activity centres, to support electric vehicle charge points, to enhance technology and sustainability outcomes in public places.

# Combustible Cladding

**Resolution:**

That MAV advocates to the State Government that the Victorian Building Association (VBA):

1. provides financial and legal support and indemnifies Councils for their Municipal Building Surveyor (MBS) undertaking enforcement action to address immediate safety risks associated with combustible cladding, extending the current financial support provided for undertaking inspections;
2. adjusts the Advisory Reference Panel framework to ensure that Council's MBS can rely on the Panel's recommended controls without needing to undertake independent assessments of the appropriateness of the controls, with the associated liabilities; and
3. establishes the capacity and capability to undertake the role of the MBS to address any buildings identified in the future as being at risk from combustible cladding and address any enforcement related to compliance, noting that in the interim, the MBS will address the current priority list provided by the VBA through undertaking associated enforcement related to immediate building safety.

# Cyclist Safety

**Resolution:**

That the MAV State Council seeks that the MAV:

1. as regards on-road cycle lanes, pursues with the Minister for Roads, VicRoads, and Transport for Victoria senior management the need for substantially enhanced State funding to create segregated on-road cycle lanes commencing with strategic cycling corridors - highest risk corridors, to convert token on-road bike lanes to safe segregated bike lanes; and
2. pursues with the Minister for Roads, VicRoads, Transport for Victoria senior management and other relevant transport decision makers, the need to redesign intersections used by cyclists as above to reduce uncertainty over use of road space, to reduce conflict points, between vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, in line with VicRoads, TAC and Council road safety objectives of a zero harm approach, and accordingly progressively implement these through funding from the State budget.

# Electric Buses

**Resolution:**

That the MAV pursue with the State, the progressive conversion of Victoria’s polluting diesel bus fleets to well designed E-buses, with improved services, routing, comfort and features such as Wi-Fi, capable of attracting far higher patronage levels, commencing with routes involving high pedestrian and cycle use.

# Infrastructure Funding

**Resolution:**

1. That the MAV raise with the Commonwealth through all other relevant forums:
2. the need for re-alignment of federal funding arrangements so that the three levels of Government in Australia have a more efficient match between their public responsibilities and their finances;
3. the need for the Commonwealth to urgently address the rapidly growing infrastructure gap in the States, particularly as regards rail transport in and between capital and regional cities – with significant funding being immediately provided to metropolitan public transport which will free up road space for cars and freight;
4. the need for equitable infrastructure funding to States to reduce major discrepancies between the Australian States, e.g. Victoria's infrastructure funding has been reduced to 8-9% of federal infrastructure funding notwithstanding its population being 25% of the nation which produces 22% of the Australian GDP.
5. That the MAV therefore seeks:
6. A commitment to a "new agreement of principles" funding discussion across all three levels of government so it is clear who does what based from which taxation stream.
7. $ for $ Commonwealth infrastructure investment in rail in both metropolitan and regional cities; and
8. Better communication of the Commonwealth's infrastructure funding distribution formula

# **Environmental Sustainable Development in the Victorian Planning** **System**

**Resolution:**

That the MAV write to the Minister for Planning and Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change to request:

1. Supporting councils who continue to seek a local planning scheme policy for Environmental Sustainable Development
2. Achieving a state-led ESD approach in the Victorian planning system, that builds on the work done by councils and is supported by the MAV, before the end of 2018
3. Ministers accepting a meeting with representatives from councils and the MAV to discuss the above.

# **Application and Enforcement of Mininum Garden Area Requirements of** New Residental Zones Under the Building Regulations

**Resolution:**

That the MAV write to the Minister for Planning to request:

1. An update in relation to the provision of guidance to Building Surveyors which outlines how the minimum garden area requirements’ of the new Residential Zones are to be applied and enforced under the Building Regulations.
2. Ask for a mechanism under the Building Regulations to ensure that the ‘Minimum garden area’ is appropriately landscaped having regard to the neighbourhood character including the provision of canopy trees.
3. Seek an update in relation to the provision of general practice notes in relation to the Reformed Residential Zones.

# Improvements to Processes Dealing With Alleged Councillor Misconduct

**Resolution:**

That the State Council:

1. Call on the Victorian Government to ensure that the new Local Government Act:

1. Includes sexual harassment and sexual misconduct within the definitions of serious misconduct, and clarifying that a single incident may be sufficiently problematic to sustain an allegation of gross misconduct if that incident is seriously inconsistent with the Councillor continuing to function effectively in that role;
2. Strengthens the sanctions applicable to serious misconduct, if the conduct is considered by a Councillor Conduct Panel to warrant it; and
3. Empowers the Chief Municipal Inspector to consider a request by a Council, individual Councillor or Chief Executive Officer to commission a confidential preliminary investigation on a 'without admission' basis, independent of the Council, into whether the conduct of a Councillor may present a serious risk to occupational health and safety, and to issue 'interim directions' requiring a Councillor to absent themselves from the workplace during a preliminary investigation, if it is deemed necessary to do so.
4. Strengthen the internal resolution procedures by providing a panel or group of independent persons to hear disputes between councillors.

1. Requests that the MAV template Code of Conduct be updated to ensure that initial dispute resolution procedures always ensure that the Councillor or person facilitating the dispute resolution is impartial, and that the Code is clearer on when it is appropriate to bypass an initial dispute resolution procedure

# VicRoads Roads Maintenance Budget

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) call on VicRoads through the relevant political channels including the State Roads Minister, local politicians and other relevant bodies and individuals for a dramatic increase in VicRoads basic road maintenance budget. This especially applies to the rural areas of this State, as when annual CPI is taken into account the budget is actually decreasing

# Tiny Houses - Seeking Planning Changes Support Housing Affordability and Diversity

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council urges the State Government to amend the Victorian planning provisions to better support small affordable housing as it would make a significant contribution to the policy aspirations of Plan Melbourne and Homes for Victorians.

# Regional Growth Fund

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. Notes the final report of the Inquiry into the Sustainability and Operational Challenges of Victoria’s Rural and Regional Councils by the Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee, Parliament of Victoria;
2. Recognises the need to ensure rural and regional Victorians receive a level of core local government service comparable with metropolitan residents, and
3. Urges the Victorian Government to develop a plan to maintain the liveability and economic strength of regional and rural Victoria by:-
4. establishing a Regional Growth Fund to assist regional cities with a growing population to deliver the infrastructure needed to support that growth,
5. incorporating key recommendations of the report into the plan; specifically:

* A review of the rating system to improve fairness and equity and reduce the burden on agricultural land (Rec.1)
* Seeking changes to the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant Pool to ensure a larger proportion can be distributed based on Council’s needs (Rec. 5)
* A new Victorian Grants program designed to assist small rural Councils to deliver core services (Rec. 6)
* New Victorian Government grants to assist Councils wishing to investigate and establish shared service and resource arrangements (Rec. 9)
* Expanded efforts to grow the population and economy of rural Victoria (Rec. 10)
* Greater flexibility when establishing grant programs requiring co-contributions. (Rec 14)

# Clarity for Rural Drainage Roles and Responsibilities

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to Victorian Government to establish clarity in relation to rural drainage roles and responsibilities, through processes consistent with the principles of the Victorian State-Local Government Agreement and have these matters supported in legislation or a formalised intergovernmental agreement rather than through a series of policy level strategies issued by the Victorian Government

# Electronic Gaming Machines

**Resolution:**

The Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to the State Government to adopt a public health approach to reduce the harms caused by Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) by legislating to:

1. Reduce the maximum cash withdrawal limit from EFTPOS facilities at gaming venues from $500 to $200 in a 24-hour period.
2. Strengthen the regulatory framework governing the enforcement of the Victorian Responsible Gambling Code of Conduct.

# Continuation of Fire Services Property Levy Funding Assistance

**Resolution:**

That the MAV make representation to the State Government seeking continuation of funding assistance to Local Government for the collection of the Fire Services Property Levy.

# Public housing investment

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government that it:

1. Ensure that increases in social housing are sufficient to meet the needs of the community
2. Work with local government to achieve the best outcomes for the community in redevelopments under the Public Housing Renewal Program
3. Commit to appropriately funding the ongoing maintenance of all public housing infrastructure

# Planning for housing affordability

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government that it recognises the potential for planning mechanisms to proactively contribute to the supply of social and affordable housing in Victoria, and investigates the development of policy to provide for affordable and/or social housing, including the consideration of:

* inclusionary zoning
* density bonuses
* special provisions for certain classes of development

# Supporting recycling in Victoria

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to the Victorian State Government to:

1. actively facilitate and support investment in local recycling collection and processing systems and in the development of new recycling businesses and technologies in Victoria to reduce our dependence on offshore reprocessing of materials
2. provide further support to councils to manage the cost impacts on ratepayers of altered recycling market conditions
3. work with other states and the federal government to develop a self-sustaining, responsible recycling process addressing all elements from producer through consumer to recycler with the aim of achieving a circular economy
4. develop a comprehensive state-wide long term strategy for recycling with a focus on kerbside recycling
5. develop a marketing and education campaign for consumers and industry that encourages purchasing of products manufactured from recycled materials
6. commit to a funding package to stimulate and assist the Victorian economy to establish a circular economy by supporting industry and by encouraging consumers to reduce consumption of packaging and improving recycling by reducing contamination rates
7. build upon existing initiatives including industry product stewardship schemes, and directives on recyclable packaging, to ensure packaging and products are designed for minimal packaging, re-use, recycling and repair, with the disposal costs included in the purchase or disposal price
8. utilise accumulated landfill levy income for the abovementioned purposes

# Recycling Industry

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. Writes to Victorian Premier, Daniel Andrews, requesting:
   1. The Victorian Government recognises the lack of capacity in the local recycling industry and adopts policies and actions to encourage a sophisticated, independent, self-sustaining industry.
   2. The Victorian Government allocates $100 million from the $2,077 million received from the sale of the State's shareholding in Snowy Hydro to a fund focussed on:
      * developing and enhancing the sustainability of domestic processing of recyclable waste within the state of Victoria

* addressing the immediate local government funding shortfalls arising from the China Sword policy.
  1. The Victorian Government works with local government to develop a self-sustaining, responsible recycling process addressing all elements from producer through consumer to recycler.

1. Obtains advice on:
   1. The legality of the Victorian Government continuing to collect the Landfill Levy and withholding the collected funds, without disbursement for the purposes for which the levy was collected.
   2. The ability of Councils to withhold payment of the Landfill Levy until such time as a plan is developed for its disbursement.

# Container Deposit Scheme

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) advocate for the Victorian Government to introduce a container deposit scheme and as part of that advocacy:

1. promote the benefits that such a scheme would provide to the community
2. investigate and share learnings from the implementation of container deposit schemes in other states including, most recently, New South Wales
3. pursue the option for local government to be able to set up return schemes should they choose to do so.

# Neighbourhood House Funding

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the Minister for Families, Children and Youth Affairs, the Hon. Jenny Mikakos to lift the Neighbourhood House coordination freeze, and direct increased funding to Neighbourhood Houses identified as unfunded or under-funded and invest in the establishment of new Neighbourhood Houses to meet the needs of a growing population.

# Funding for women’s sporting facilities

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association advocates to the Minister for Sport, the Hon John Eren MP, for a commitment from the Victorian Government to expedite and provide increased funding to enable facility upgrades/retrofits to accommodate and support the growth of female sports participation and ensure facilities are suitable and accessible for all females. This request recognises that the facility-related barriers have a significant impact on female participation, and that this funding be expedited to rural and metropolitan councils which experience high levels of demonstrated need.

# Funding for sport and recreation youth facilities

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to the Minister for Sport, the Hon John Eren MP, for a commitment from the Victorian Government to provide increased funding for sport and recreation facilities (structured and unstructured) to support the participation of young people in sport. Funding should be expedited to rural and metropolitan councils that experience high levels of:

* Youth unemployment
* Early school leavers
* Entrenched disadvantage
* Juvenile crime

# Victoria - The Place to Bee

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates for change in local government bee management practises and encourages other Victorian Councils to commit to making Victoria a bee-friendly state – *Victoria, The Place to Bee* by:

1. Investigating opportunities for Shared Services or consultancy between Councils to embed policies around bee management and advocacy.
2. Capitalising on momentum to-date and work with DEDJTR (Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, Government of Victoria) and the Victorian Apiarist's Association.
3. Seeking funding through State Government Grants

# Pharmacotherapy

**Resolution:**

That the MAV support an advocacy campaign calling for better access and affordability of pharmacotherapy across Victoria, including increasing prescribing physicians and participating pharmacies. The campaign will also seek to decrease stigma towards drug dependence treatment and support improved outcomes for community members seeking therapy to overcome pharmaceutical opioid/mixed drug use dependence.

# Middle Years Funding

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government for additional funding to Victorian Councils to support children and young people in the primary school age group, particularly the 5 – 10 year group

# Graffiti

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. advocates to the State Government to increase the available police resources, penalties and programs to improve the enforcement of graffiti offences; and
2. advocates to the State Government to implement relevant changes to ensure organisations such as public utilities implement timely and effective graffiti clean-up as a matter of priority.

# Relocation of Housing Clients with Complex and Challenging Needs

**Resolution:**

Latrobe City Council requests that the MAV calls upon the State Government, in particular the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing, Hon. Martin Foley MP requesting that he:

1. Instructs the Department of Health and Human Services to cease relocating housing clients with complex and challenging needs (drug and alcohol addiction) from urban and metropolitan communities to rural and regional areas, in particular Latrobe City.
2. Or immediately increases funding to rural and regional support sectors in the areas of family violence, mental health and drug and alcohol addiction services in recognition of the impact of ice on these communities.
3. Coordinate a targeted community based approach to minimise the harmful effects of ice on rural and regional communities.
4. Establish new initiatives to support and strengthen local communities at risk.

# River Protection

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls upon the Victorian State Government to provide protection for the Maribyrnong River, Werribee River and other river systems using a similar model used in protecting the Yarra River under the Yarra Protection Act.

# Consultation, community impact assessments and municipal controls regarding the over-the-counter needle and opioid facilities

**Resolution:**

That the MAV is to lobby the Victorian Parliament to initiate and integrate Victorian policies and policy outcomes with regard to the Victorian Planning Scheme and Health and Wellbeing Plan to enable Local Government to make better place based decisions with regard to density of rooming houses, opioid maintenance prescribing and dispensing outlets and packaged liquor outlets.

# Defined state funding provisions for improved kindergarten literacy outcomes

**Resolution:**

That MAV advocate to State Government for increased program funding for improved literacy outcomes for children 0 – 6.

# Home Care

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. Writes to the Prime Minister, leader of the opposition, leaders of minor parties and independent members of parliament requesting that bulk funding from the Commonwealth for aged care services be maintained for local councils that want to continue delivering quality aged and home care services to their vulnerable and ageing communities.
2. Advocates for an analysis of impact on the gender pay gap of the introduction of My Aged Care, and the shift in service delivery away from local government.

# Homelessness In Australia

**Resolution:**

That MAV advocate to State and Federal Government for increased housing infrastructure for crisis and transitional housing and program funding for front line agencies to better support the growing number of people to transition out of homelessness including rough sleeping and roofed homelessness (rooming houses and couch surfing) and into secure tenured accommodation.

# Packaged Liquor

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the Minister for Planning under Section 9 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to prepare a Group of Councils amendment to introduce a Local Planning Policy into the Planning Schemes for Frankston, Casey, Cardinia, Mornington Peninsula, Monash, Kingston, Knox, Maroondah and Greater Dandenong.

The South-East Melbourne Council Group (SEMCG) have recently completed a research project which aims to better understand the relationships between packaged liquor outlet density and increases in alcohol related harms taking place, particularly focusing on family violence.

The research has aided the group in developing a suite of responses to address the increasing impacts which range from advocacy strategies and office reference toolkits to amendments to the planning scheme through the implementation of planning policies

# Parks Victoria Maintenance and Consultation

**Resolution:**

That the MAV lobbies the Minister for Planning to undertake a review of the Bushfire Protection vegetation clearance exemptions in Clause 52.48 of the Planning Scheme to consider the relevance of these exemptions to urban and township areas across the State and identify opportunities for a more targeted approach.

# Review of emergency SMS system pertaining to both natural and manmade disasters

**Resolution:**

That the MAV is to request that the Victorian Minister for Emergency Services (and also forwarded to the relevant Shadow Minister) undertakes an in-depth review to ensure that all Victorians – with mobile phone technology – are adequately advised of imminent natural disasters in their vicinity.

# State of Local Government Report

**Resolution:**

That the MAV seek funding from state government to produce a report on the profile of local government similar to the existing “State of Public Service” report

# Refugees

**Resolution:**

That the MAV writes to the Prime Minister requesting that:

1. Australia abandons the current harsh and unjust policies of offshore detention which have resulted in 9 deaths and untold misery and despair with many people developing serious mental illnesses;
2. Asylum seekers, including the 160 children held on Nauru, are returned to Australia;
3. Asylum seeker men currently abandoned on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea are returned to Australia;
4. Australia accepts the offer by New Zealand to provide protection for 150 people per year;
5. The over 30,000 refugees living on bridging visas in our community with their futures in limbo should have a right to seek permanent protection;
6. Asylum seekers seeking protection in Australia are not pressured to return to their home countries or unsafe places where they could be subject to persecution.

# Victorian Planning Scheme Review of Parking Provisions at cl 52.06

**Resolution:**

That the MAV note community concerns frequently raised in objection to residential development permit applications in that the current car parking requirements set out in Clause 52.06 of the Victoria Planning Provisions are inadequate.

That the MAV supports and advocates for a review of Clause 52.06 of the Victoria Planning Provisions.

# Legislation and Regulations of Utility Companies

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government to include, in legislation and regulations, a requirement of utility companies and their contractors to advise residents directly prior to undertaking work when the work may impact on those residents.

# Dockless Bike Share

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government to create a regulatory framework that sets and enforces standards so that dockless share bikes are safe and are not left in areas where they create a public hazard or nuisance.

# Elster Creek Catchment

**Resolution:**

That the MAV undertake a short study of how councils in the same catchment can collaborate to obtain better outcomes for the catchment.

That the MAV advocate that the State Government work with councils in the Elster Creek Catchment to identify and deliver the infrastructure works needed so no properties have an 'intolerable' (extreme) flood risk.

# Health of the Bay

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate that the State Government increases the period of monitoring and reporting frequency to better direct and communicate human health risks from pathogens from 1 December to 31 March each year instead of December and January only and works with council to develop and implement strategies to improve the health of the bay.

# Review of the Local Government Act

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate that the State Government retain the ability for councils to set appropriate rates rather than enshrine rate capping in the Local Government Act. That the MAV advocate that the State Government retain the ability for councils to set the appropriate method for determining land value for ratings purposes for their community, rather than enshrine the mandatory use of capital improved value.

# Contributions made under Growth Areas Infrastructure Contributions

**Resolution:**

That State Government ensure that contributions made under Growth Areas Infrastructure Contributions (GAIC) be fully expended for the necessary infrastructure to meet the needs of the community in which the money is collected and that the funds are released to meet the needs for infrastructure construction in a more timely manner.

# Maternal and Child Health funding in growth areas

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government for a more equitable funding arrangement for councils to ensure that local government is not required to contribute more than 50% to the delivery of the Universal Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Service.

# Transfer of costs for policing to councils

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government that basic police protection of the community should not be provided on a fee-for-service basis and Councils and communities should not be required to pay twice for day-to-day community services such as the maintenance of law and order.

# Mandatory written notification of removal of asbestos from residential properties

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to the State Government to initiate policy and legislative changes to:

* require any person removing asbestos from a residential property to provide prior written notification to abutting properties of the proposed removal of the asbestos;
* empower Councils to enforce legislative provisions requiring prior written notification to abutting properties of the proposed removal of the asbestos.

# Litter Management

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria, recognising the significant impact on the environment and costs to the community of illegally dumped rubbish, seeks a commitment from the State Government to:

1. Significantly increase the penalty units payable for litter related offences under the Environment Protection Act 1970
2. Exempt councils from paying the landfill levy on the disposal of illegally dumped rubbish collected in the municipality
3. Regulate the skip bin industry, including a licencing system of skip bins, to prevent the establishment of rogue operators

# Sustainability fund disbursement

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to State Government to urgently allocate funds from the Sustainability Fund to:

1. expedite the implementation of the Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group’s Advanced Waste and Resource Recovery Technology Business Case and associated. Procurement Strategy across metropolitan Melbourne ($5 Million), and
2. develop and implement a State-wide education and awareness campaign to reduce waste to landfill ($5 Million).
3. fund dedicated EPA Officers to manage legacy contamination and other EPA compliance issues in affected municipalities, and for an EPA office to be located within the Brimbank municipality.

# Water Act

**Resolution:**

That the provisions of the Water Act, in relation to the issuing of commercial licences for water extraction, storage, transporting, bottling and export, be subject to an MAV research and advocacy project to protect and preserve the water resource for domestic use, food and agricultural production and environment

# Inquiry Into the Activities of the Recycling Industry in Victoria

**Resolution:**

That an inquiry is taken into the activities of the recycling industry in Victoria including issues relating to landfill, markets for recycled waste and the actions taken by Metropolitan Waste Resource and Recovery Group (MWRRG) in providing a consistent approach to the management of solid waste.

The inquiry would review specific actions undertaken by MWRRG including:

* incentives and collection methodology in determining the quality and quantity of material collected for recycling;
* review of the destination of material collected for recycling, including the extent of material for reprocessing and the stockpiling of collected material;
* the feasibility of the state landfill levy charges and use for waste diversion purposes, incentives for local processing and markets.
* review of current and future economic conditions in the industry and local markets for reuse of recycling material.

That a response including recommendations be provided at the next MAV State Council Meeting.

# Wind Farm enforcement

**Resolution:**

Advocate to the Minister for Planning and Minister for Health to address inconsistencies

between the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and the *Planning and Environment Act*

*1987* in relation to wind farm enforcement.

# Infrastructure Renewal Gap

**Resolution:**

That the MAV make representation to the State Government seeking a one-time payment of $225 Million as at 2012, reviewed and indexed to today’s figure to Councils to assist with reducing the infrastructure renewal gap.

# Corella Management

**Resolution:**

That the MAV make representation to the State Government to seek solutions to the problems being encountered by many Victorian rural and regional Councils and some metropolitan Councils, together with their communities, caused by the destructive behaviour of corellas.

# Advanced End to End Recycling Facilities

**Resolution:**

That the MAV strongly advocate to State Government on the urgent need for advanced end to end recycling facilities.

# Registered Housing Providers

**Resolution:**

That the MAV call on the State Government to assist Registered Housing Providers that service specialist client groups, such as women and people with a disability, to transition to the category of Registered Housing Association to enable them to increase their capacity to raise funds and capital to maintain their existing social housing stock and increase future social housing supplies.

# Support for Refugees Living in Local Communities

**Resolution:**

That to better support refugees living in local communities, the MAV be requested to:

1. advocate to the Federal Government to process those refugees on a bridging visa in a timely manner; and
2. advocate to the State Government to provide financial resources to those Councils that have substantial numbers of refugees living in their communities.