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| **Chair** | Chair: MAV Board member.Deputy Chair: MAV Board member.Meetings held during the Board caretaker period are chaired by an MAV Officer. |
| **Purpose** | The purpose of the Human Services Committee is to:* Provide advice to the MAV on policy and advocacy issues prioritised in the MAV Strategic Plan issues.
* Represent local government on policy and advocacy issues presented to the committee by the State and Commonwealth Governments
* Provide Governance and oversight of the Supporting Children and Families in the Early Years Compact
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| **Scope** | The committee will focus on human services policy and advocacy issues impacting on local government as per the MAV Strategic Plan, ‘live’ issues in the sector, legislative changes and/or as prioritised or directed by the MAV Board |
| **Membership** | The Board determines membership through an Expression of Interest process.The MAV will aim to ensure that the membership reflects the diversity of the local government sector including ethnicity, age, gender, role (councillors and senior council officers) and location (metropolitan, regional, and rural). No more than two representatives from each council will be permitted.Members must nominate an ongoing substitute member who they can delegate meeting attendance to, should they be unavailable to attend. Substitute members can only attend when the primary member is unable to do so. Primary members who fail to attend three or more consecutive meetings without an apology or provision of a substitute will be deemed to no longer be a member of the Committee. |
| **Role of Members** | * To attend all meetings in-person or via video-link or if attendance is not possible, arrange a delegate.
* To respond to out-of-session communications
* To advise the MAV on human services matters, specifically related to the role of local government within their municipality and/or local government area.
* To support strategic decision making on human services matters specifically related to the role of local government.
* To participate in the development of MAV state-wide policy positions and advocacy campaigns
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| **Meetings, quorum, and casting vote** | Meetings will be held quarterly and will be available as hybrid in-person and virtual attendance.Where necessary, a quorum is required to make decisions and will be achieved with the Chair, or Deputy Chair or other nominated MAV Board Member, and 30 per cent of committee members.The Chair shall have a casting vote in the event of a deadlock in relation to any matter or motion before the Committee. |
| **Term of Committee:** | The Committee will operate for two years, until May 2025, at which time the membership and terms of Reference will be reviewed by the MAV BoardA review of the Terms of Reference may be conducted at any other time, however, proposed updates will be subject to the approval of the MAV Board. |
| **Reporting** | Minutes and outcomes from committee meetings to be reported to the MAV Board by the committee Chair.Member councils will be informed of the decisions and activities of the Committee as appropriate. |
| **MAV Resourcing** |  The MAV office will provide secretariat support to enable effective operation of the Committee. |
| **Media and Communications** | The MAV President is the media spokesperson for the MAV. The President may, at times, give express permission for the CEO or another person to act as a spokesperson on a specific matter. All media inquiries that occur in your capacity as a member of an MAV advisory group should be redirected to MAV Communications for the attention of the President. |