



**A POCKET GUIDE TO COMMUNITY INDICATORS
FOR AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
NOW AVAILABLE**

Councils in the 21st century face three major challenges:

- Balancing the demands of economic growth with sustainability of the environment for current and future generations and equity for all citizens.
- Promoting good governance, community participation and community accountability through all phases of community development from community visioning to reporting on progress.
- Achieving synergy between Councils goals and priorities with management and implementation practices.

This pocket guide, ***Just, Vibrant and Sustainable Communities*** will assist Council to address these key issues. Published by the Local Government Community Services Association of Australia and written by Jenny Wills, it provides a framework for developing communities and measuring progress through community indicators.

Community wellbeing is grounded in local democracy with clear explanations of democratic governance, active citizenship, social justice and social capital.

The 136 page detailed guide defines the following wellbeing components over which Councils can have a major influence:

- ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
- COMMUNITY SAFETY
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
- HOUSING
- LEISURE AND RECRETION
- PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Best practice goals and targets are spelt out for the seven components according to a sustainable, just, whole of community and whole of Council approach. The targets provide a basis for Councils and their communities to develop community indicators to measure progress.

To further assist the community indicator development process a Q U E S T checklist is provided suggesting indicators should be Qualitative and/or Quantitative, Understandable, Equitable, Strategic and Timely.

Councils are encouraged to apply the wellbeing framework of *Just, Vibrant and Sustainable Communities* and to register local wellbeing initiatives and other resources on the website of the Local Government Community Services Association of Australia. www.lgcsaa.org.au.

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