

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)

PROPOSAL NO. 9 of 2014

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE STATISTICS - QUARTERLY ESTIMATES

The Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to continue collecting information for the purpose of understanding financial transactions of Local Government.

The information will be collected:

- on an ongoing quarterly basis;
- as a sample of approximately 80 Local Government Councils and 5 Local Government controlled Public Non-Financial Corporations (PNFCs) with significant levels of economic activity;
- by electronic form; and
- across all states and territories of Australia, except the Australian Capital Territory where there are no local government units.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- operating statement: selected revenue items;
- operating statement: selected expense items;
- cashflow statement: purchases of land and new non-financial assets classified by asset type;
- cashflow statement: proceeds from sales of land and non-financial assets classified by asset type;
- balance sheet: selected inventory items; and
- number of paid employees.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of Quarterly Government Financial Statistics. This is then used in the preparation of the Quarterly National Accounts.

The ABS makes statistical and related information from the collection available approximately two months after the end of the quarter.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available; and
- consults with Local Government Grants Commissions, Local Government Departments and/or Local Government Authorities in each jurisdiction when any changes are required to the collection to ensure that the required data are readily available.

This collection was last conducted in April 2014 and was previously tabled in Parliament as proposal No. 5 of 1984.

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