Local Government Professionals
AUSTRALIA WA

Data Drives Decisions Project

Prospectus for WA Local Government Sector

November 2023

Data Drives Decisions

> A context project that provides participating local governments with a report on their operational statistics and comparable industry standards.

Introduction

The Local Government Professionals WA (LGPWA) Data Drives Decisions (DDD) Project is an initiative co-designed with the local government sector for the operational needs of local government in WA. In circumstances where the legislative and regulatory environments are rapidly evolving, combined with a growing demand on local governments to service the many segments of their communities, LGPWA is excited to launch this program to assist local governments to make complex and important decisions based on consistent and credible data.

The DDD Project is founded on the following simple principles:

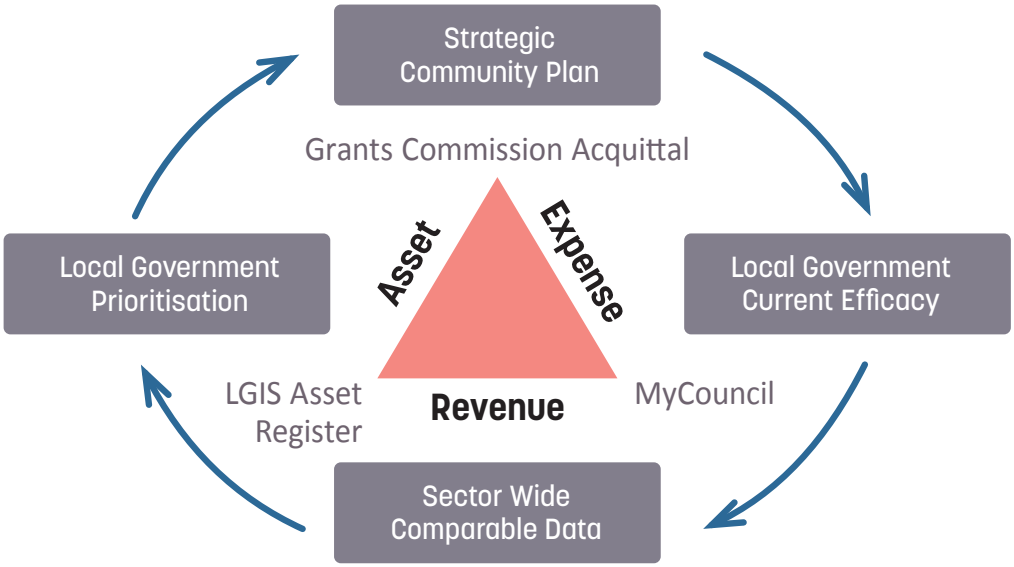
- Utilising **readily available data sources** to negate any requirement on local governments needing to provide additional information.
- The data sources need to be **consistent and reliable** across local governments in order for the information to be useful.
- The cost to participate in the program needs to be **appropriate**—to enable as many local governments to participate as possible—thereby increasing the validity of the program.
- The program can be easily scaled up incrementally to include additional data and reporting/presentation options—as driven and designed by the local government sector.
- The data is to be presented in an **easy-to-use diagrammatic** format which enables clear prioritisation and decision–making.
- Delivering **results** by enabling local governments to react quickly to opportunities, rather than waiting for insights that come along after the operational activity occurred.

Framework

The DDD project is based on three key sources of information:

- Annual Grants Commission Acquittal.
- LGIS Asset Register.
- MyCouncil website (subject to most up-to-date audited information).

Asset, expense, and revenue information are drawn from these data sources which enables individual local governments to make decisions based on comparative data. The relationship between the data sources and the data is shown in the following diagram.



> To maximise accessibility and to minimise cost, the program uses existing IT infrastructure and off-the-shelf Microsoft products to ensure it is easily accessible to all local governments participating in the program.

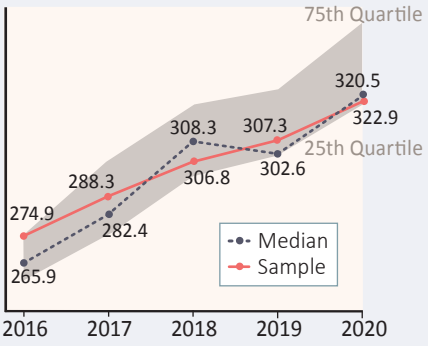
Why join the Program?

The DDD Project requires no additional human resources from your local governments to input information. Utilising existing available data sources, the DDD Project allows your local government to quantify relativity against both the sector and similar local governments to identify trends and areas for improvement.

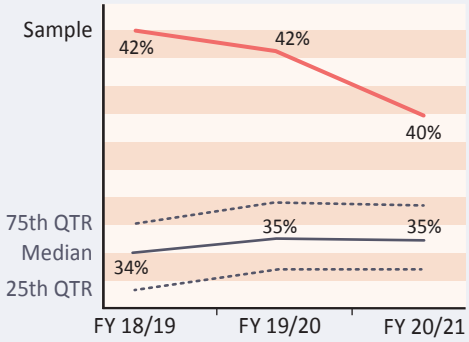
The illustrations in this prospectus provide examples of how the data is presented in this program.

Sample Quartile Assessment

Local Government's Recreation and Culture Expenditures Comparative Data



Local Government's Quartiles Annual Expense Comparison: Labour Cost (%)



These results are presented using the interactive Microsoft Power BI Tool.

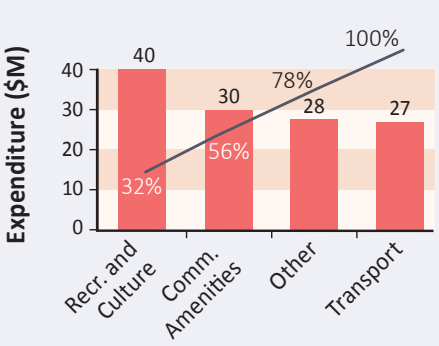
This framework makes it easy to assess operations and gain a deeper understanding of strengths and weaknesses; enabling you to develop targeted action plans for future improvement.

Data will also be presented in bar charts in certain areas as shown below.

Sample Expenses and Assets

Expense and Cumulative Program Type Breakdown

Sample (City) FY20/21

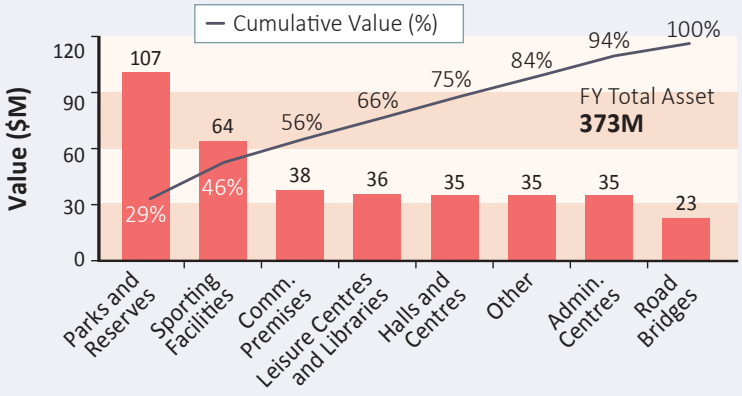


Note

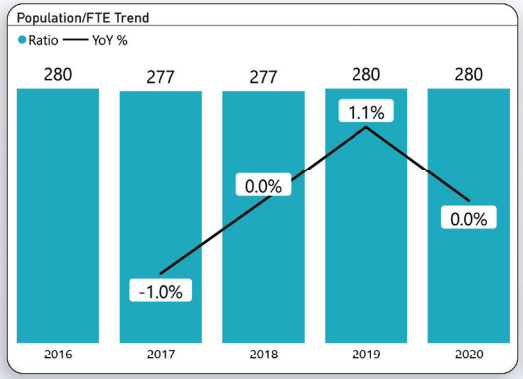
Other includes:
Governance
General Purpose Funding
Law, Order, Public Safety
Health
Education and Welfare
Housing (only values for Rockingham)
Economic Services
Other Property and Services

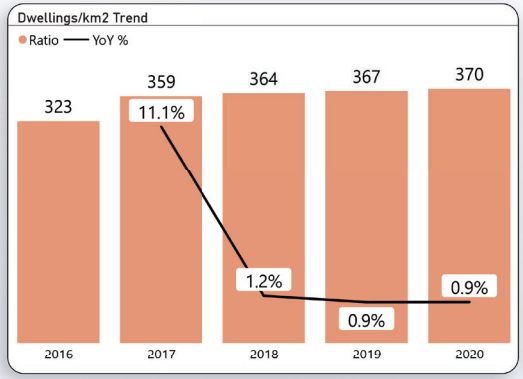
Value and Cumulative Asset Breakdown

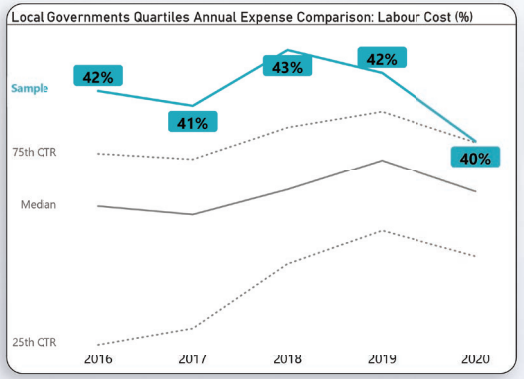
Sample (City) FY20/21

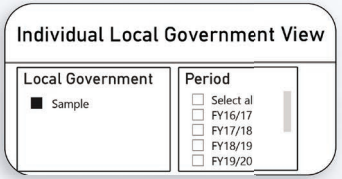


Sample of Summary Data Presentations

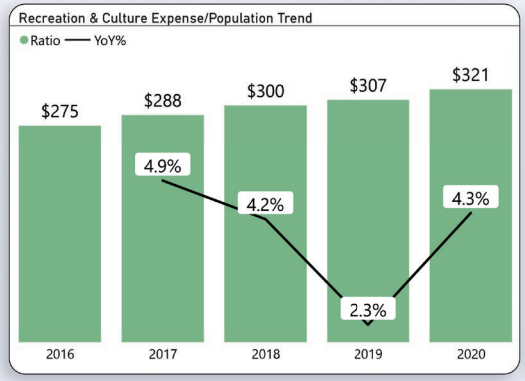


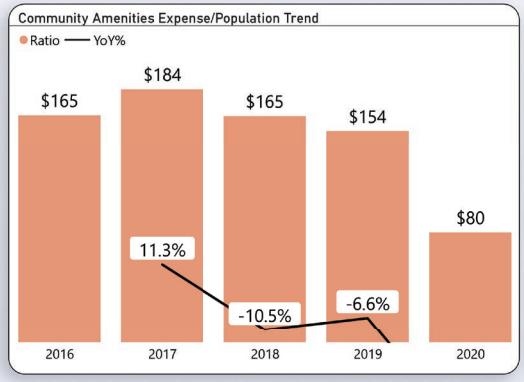


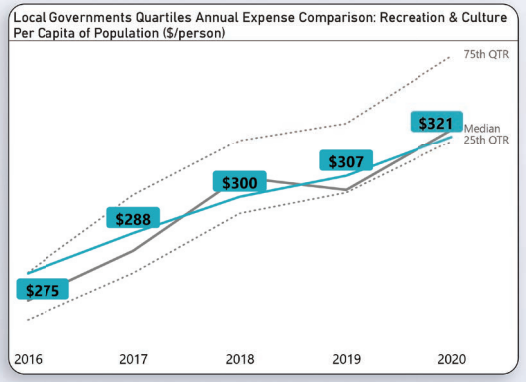


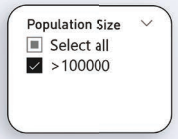


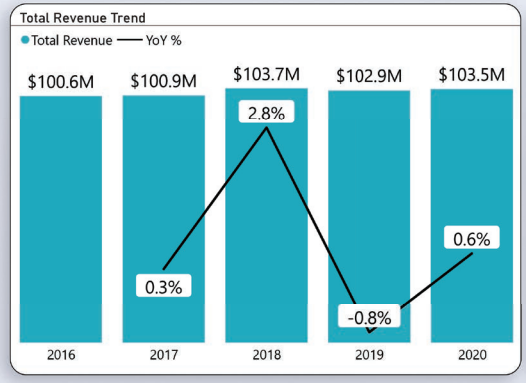
Definitions:
FTE = Full-Time Employee
YoY % = Year-on-Year percentage change
Dwellings = No. of houses/apartment/units
Density = Population/km²

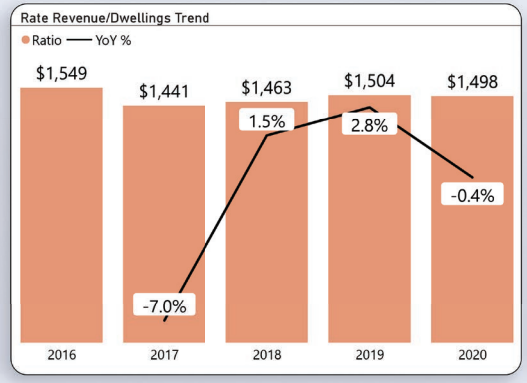


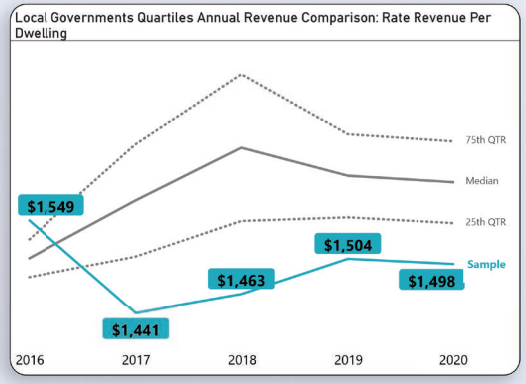




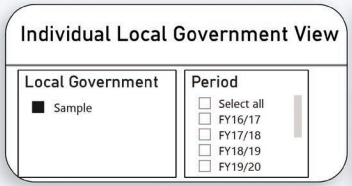




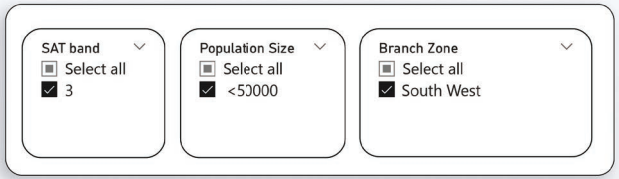


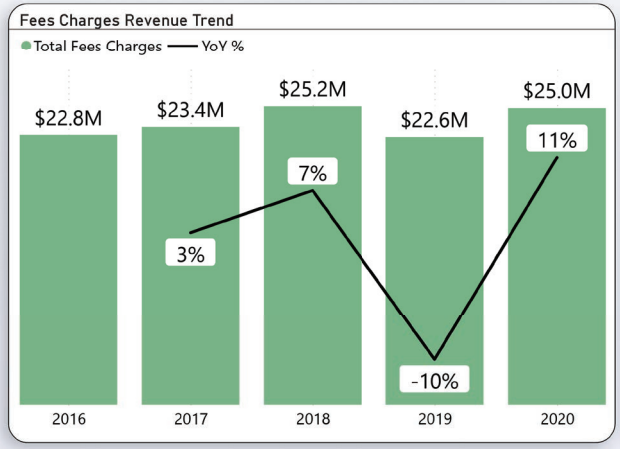


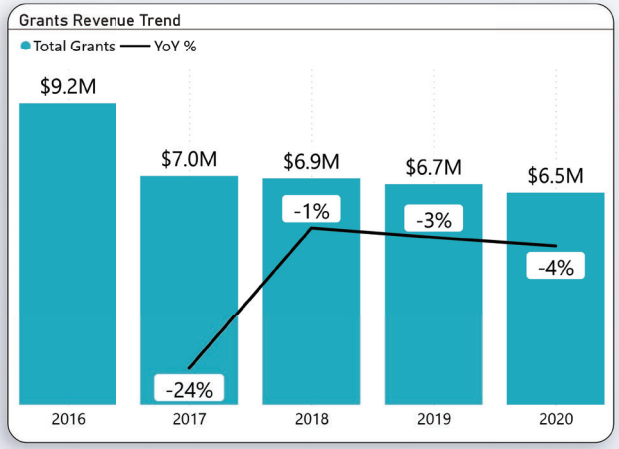
Sample of Revenue Data Presentations

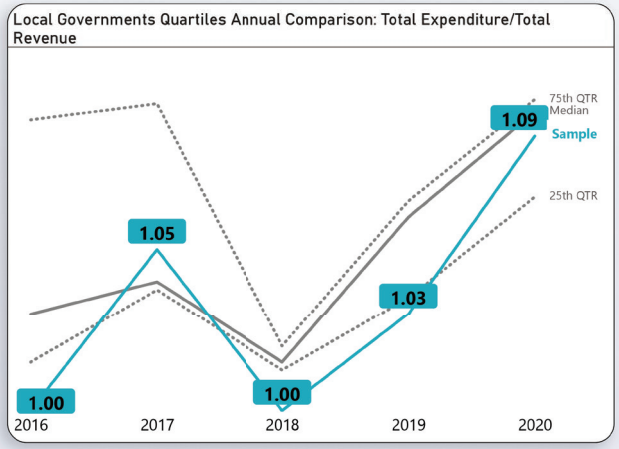


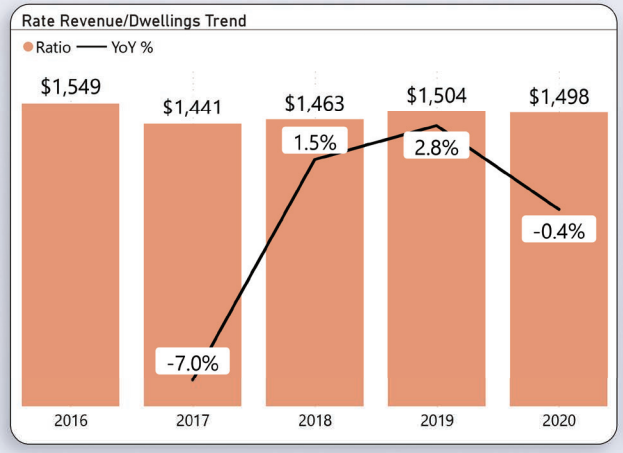
Definitions:
YoY % = Year-on-Year percentage change
Dwellings = No. of houses/apartment/units

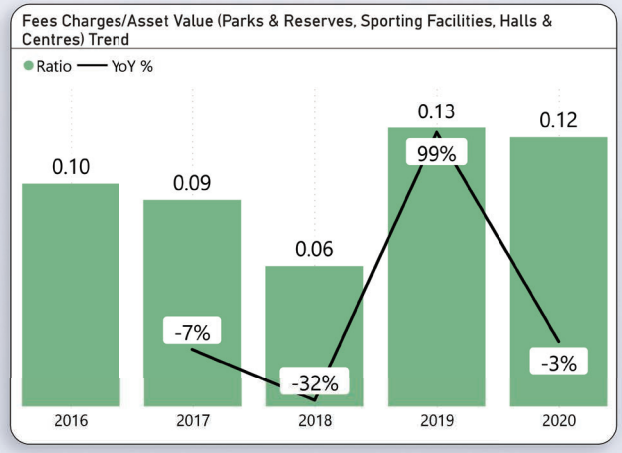


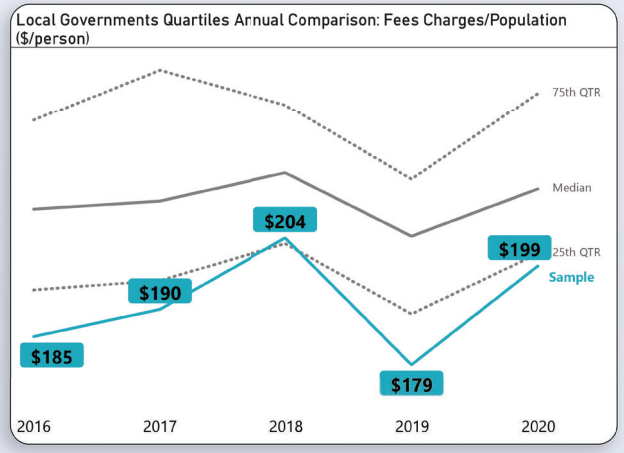




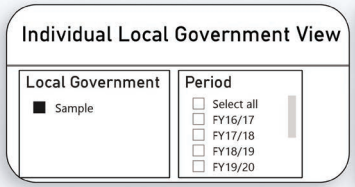




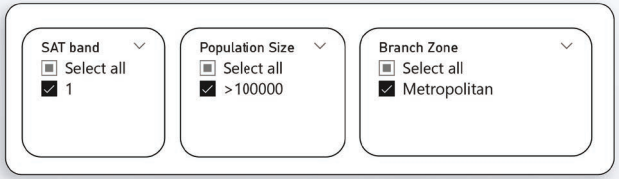


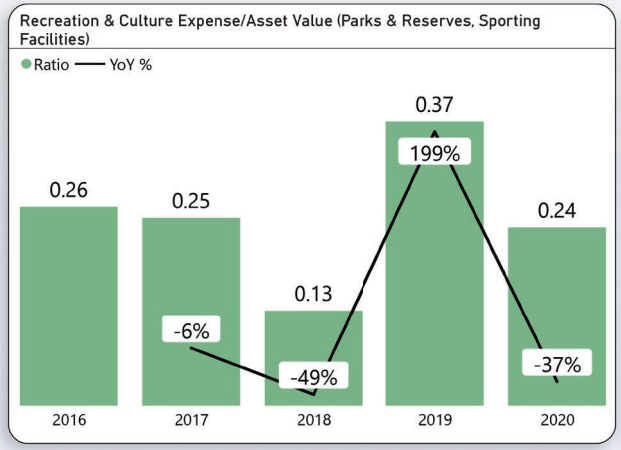


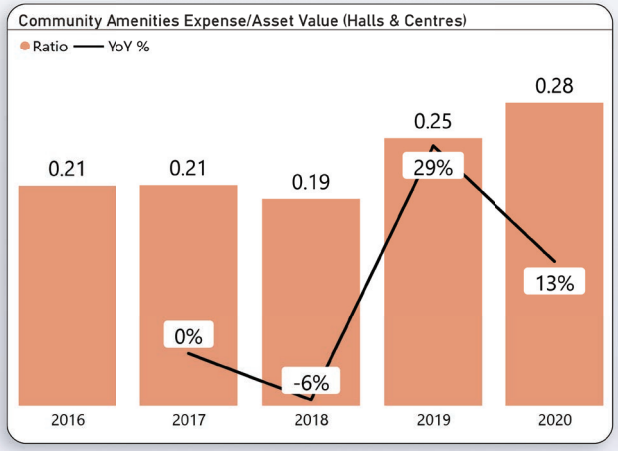
Sample of Expenditure Data Presentations

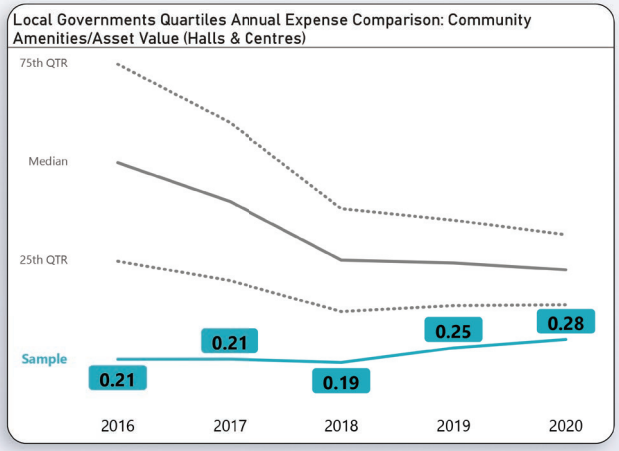


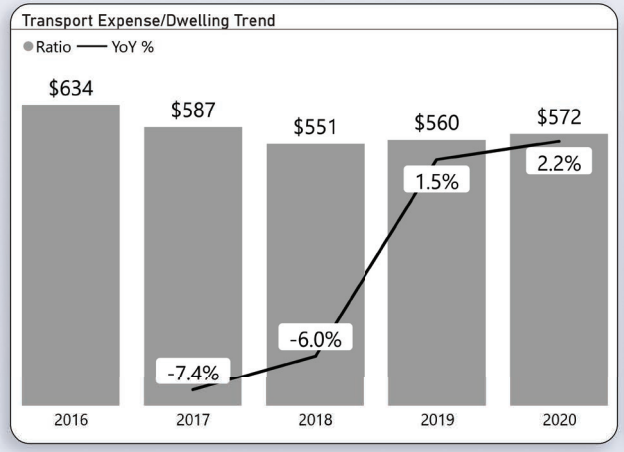
Definitions:
YoY % = Year-on-Year percentage change
Dwellings = No. of houses/apartment/units

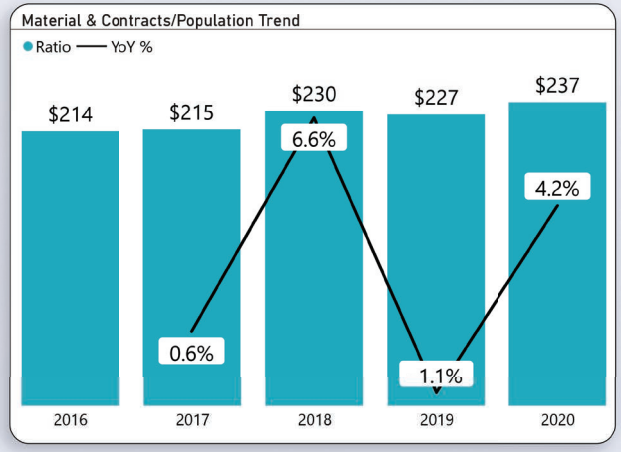


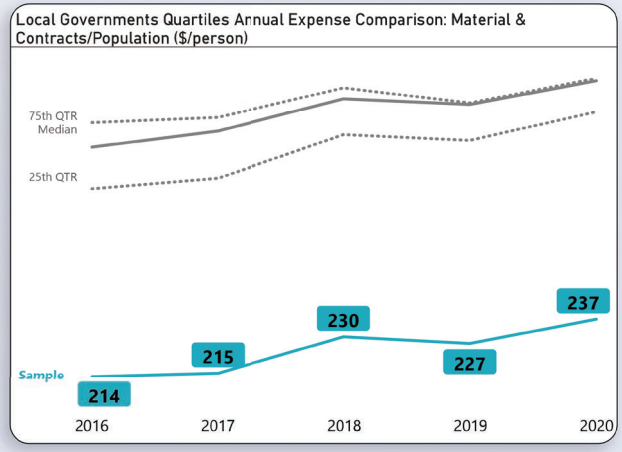












Participation Level

Local governments are encouraged to participate as a Subscriber. **The more local governments that participate in this program, the more data validity there is, thereby providing accurate and meaningful data points, which will enhance the value of this program**. The cost to participate is determined by the SAT band of each local government—**the aim of the program is to achieve maximum economies of scale**: the more local governments participating, the lower the cost for each local government in the following years.

Involvement	What you get
Subscriber	• Access to Sector-wide data. • Sector's quartile charts containing respective local government's data for relativity. • Your individual local government's data analytics.

Pricing Structure for First Year

SAT Band	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4
Subscriber	$15,000 (+GST)	$10,000 (+GST)	$5,000 (+GST)	$1,000 (+GST)

Year 1 pricing involves a significant element of developmental work and it is expected that pricing in subsequent years will be cheaper if there is strong local government support for the program.

LGPWA will seek to continually refine the DDD output. Subscribers to the project will be asked if they want to be part of, or support, this developmental work.

It should be noted that the DDD program presents information in an easily digestible format, that suggests where further analysis may be needed and avoids in depth analysis across all metrics. It enables local governments to focus their efforts efficiently, allows pricing to remain competitive and creates a product which should be relevant to most WA local governments.

Future Development of the Program

The aim of the program at this point is to provide essential operational information and data to help local governments to make informed decisions. The program will continue to evolve beyond the first year—suggestions have been provided by the sector to include information such as human resources data, future forecast and community satisfaction data in future years. LG Professionals WA will work with all local governments collaboratively to develop the program to meet the needs of the sector.

Conclusion

The Data Drives Decisions program is an invaluable resource that empowers local governments in Western Australia to make data-driven decisions, optimise resources, and improve communication. By subscribing to our program, you will gain access to analytics capabilities and actionable insights, enabling you to achieve your local government's goals and deliver exceptional services to your community.

> Contact us today to learn more and take the first step towards data-driven success.
>
> 9271 1136
>
> admin@lgprofessionalswa.org.au