OUR SERVICES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECTOR

RSM’S EXPERTISE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RSM has a long history, both in Australia and overseas, of providing a wide range of value added services to local government.

Challenges facing Councils and Councillors continue to increase, driven by greater community expectations, regulatory changes, and enhancements to governance structures, amalgamations and restructures.

At RSM we actively assess how these, and other, activities can be managed in order to maximise the value we provide to our clients, and the services that they provide to their residents, business and visitors.

RSM’s experts respond quickly to your present, and future, needs and challenges by being experienced, professional, adaptive and forward thinking. We’ll take the time to understand your unique operations, strategic directions and objectives and take a longer–term view in developing key relationships to objectively assess your strategic opportunities.

RSM is a full service firm providing a diverse range of specialist solutions that cater to all aspects of the local government sector. Our highly skilled staff include engineers, accountants, business advisers, assurance providers, IT experts, environmental auditors, WH&S professionals and business process review specialists. Being a truly national firm, RSM works seamlessly between offices and service lines to deliver tailored and co–ordinated solutions to all of our clients.

Through our knowledge, experience and trusted relationships developed with our clients, we are able to support growth, improve quality and help achieve strategic goals.

KEY CAPABILITIES

- Internal Audit
- Fraud control
- IT Assurance
- Health and Safety
- Environmental and Sustainability Services

ABOUT RSM

The RSM global network is represented in 120 countries, enabling us to access best practice insights and local expertise in the local government sector to assist you, no matter where in the world you are operating.

It is our strong, collaborative approach that differentiates us. We will strive to truly understand you, your strategies and your aspirations and endeavour to be considered the adviser of choice. By sharing the ideas and insights of our most senior professionals, we bring our expert local and global knowledge and resources to your environment, so you feel understood and empowered to move forward with confidence. This is the power of being understood. This is the RSM experience.

- 6th largest global audit, tax and consulting network
- Firms in 120 countries and are in each of the top 40 major worldwide business centres
- Over 38,000 in 760 offices
- Clients from growth–focused entrepreneurial businesses through to leading multi-national, cross border organisations
OUR SERVICES

RSM has services tailored specifically to the local government sector:

**Internal Audit**
The increased focus on governance and controls has raised the profile and responsibility of internal auditors.

Our risk-based approach enables us to act as an independent function providing objective analysis, ensuring that Council activities are conducted efficiently and effectively, and that your exposure to risks are continually monitored.

RSM provides internal audit services of the highest quality to suit your needs and the needs of your stakeholders. Our services include:

- provision of specialists in fields such as risk management, engineering, financial assurance and business process review
- partnering with in-house teams
- corporate governance advice

**IT Assurance**
As local governments have become increasingly dependent on technology and automated systems, cyber security and resilient systems have become key concerns. The presence of cyber criminals, recent high profile system failures, as well as broader concerns related to cyber security and system resiliency, have led to system vulnerabilities with major impacts.

We offer a variety of specialist information security services designed to reduce the risk of unauthorised access to your systems and data, and provide advice to help you make your technology systems function as intended. By assessing all significant risks and ensuring they are being appropriately managed we can also help you consider how to use your IT systems to better achieve your objectives.

**Fraud Control**
To maintain continued governance, risk, compliance and an effective internal control environment, all local governments seek to keep their fraud and corruption control frameworks relevant, current and effective to minimise reputation harm and reduce loss.

Our specialist Fraud and Forensic professionals can assist with, and undertake:

- Forensic investigations and forensic accounting
- Fraud, bribery and corruption (and improper conduct) control
- Forensic related training
- Forensic IT
- Compliance risk reviews

**Workplace Health and Safety**
RSM has a comprehensive background in reviewing Health and Safety management systems for local governments. This includes performing assessments of compliance with legislation and internal policies and procedures, as well as review of systems and processes with a focus on efficiencies and improvements.

**Environmental and Sustainability Services**
Our team of registered greenhouse and energy auditors are able to provide local governments with advisory and assurance services on their greenhouse and energy data collection, calculation and reporting processes. We can review sustainability strategies, assess the efficiency of environmental management systems and provide tailored environmental advisory and assurance services. Specifically, RSM provides the following:

- Environmental Risk Management
- Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Assurance
- Carbon farming and emissions reduction fund assurance
- Regulatory compliance audits

OUR CLIENTS

We have an extensive range of local government clients to whom we provide specialised, bespoke services.

Our personnel have assisted with diverse projects such as the review of long term financial plans, due diligence engagements, financial statement audits and the implementation of web based services to NSW councils.

Our international affiliates provide services to such high profile councils as the City of Westminster in London, where we are the outsourced internal audit services provider. We are able to compare council activities on a global basis to determine areas of practical improvement.

A sample of our local government clients are as follows:

**New South Wales**
- City of Sydney Council
- Local Government and Shires Association
- Bega Valley Shire Council
- Great Lakes Shire Council
- Kyogle Shire Council

**Victoria**
- Mitchell Shire Council
- Swan Hill Rural City Council
- Borough of Queenscliffe
- City of Port Phillip