

**COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS and STANDARDISED FUNDING CONTRACTS**

- At a meeting in October, 2007, the Treasurer, the Hon Kevin Foley, the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, the Hon Jennifer Rankine and the LGA President Mayor Joy Baluch agreed to develop an approach to allow a more strategic implementation of the commitment in the State/Local Relations Agreement to work together on matters involving the Commonwealth Government. Approaches regarding the Council of Australian Governments' reform agenda are central to this issue.
- At the same meeting the parties also agreed to undertake some work exploring the concept of standardised funding contracts for use between State and Local Government.
- It was agreed at this meeting that both issues should be listed on the Minister's State/Local Government Forum Agenda. Joint work on these issues is consistent with the intent of the State/Local Government Relations Agreement.
- At this point, officer level discussions are seeking to finalise an approach to these issues.
- The Forum will be regularly updated on progress.