



Your local council provides services to support the way you and other members of your community in the way you live, work and play. Councils care for communities. They consult widely on their plans and programs. Services can vary greatly from one council to another – some need to look after beaches, some build roads in hilly areas and some communities highly value a local swimming centre – others have different needs and priorities.

The 68 councils in South Australia collectively employ more than 11,000 South Australians, support almost 9,000 volunteers and spend more than \$2 billion a year on providing services. The largest proportion of spending goes on roads and drainage, with the remaining investment going towards waste and recycling, street lighting, sport and recreation facilities, public health, library and information services and many other services. Many council services are largely invisible, such as stormwater drainage that prevents flooding in local streets throughout the year.

What services do councils provide?

Councils provide many services to households and businesses, some of which are required by State laws and others are provided based on needs and preferences of communities. Whether a service is required by law or is chosen by an elected council, the Local Government Act 1999 requires that a council is “responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within its community...” and that it must “...seek to ensure that council resources are used fairly...”

Services provided by many councils at the request of their communities include:

- Libraries
- Hard rubbish collection and street cleaning
- Sporting and recreation facilities
- Parks, gardens, playgrounds and public toilets
- Street lighting
- Food safety inspections
- Immunisation programs
- Home support for older Australians and people living with a disability

Council services required by legislation include:

- Rubbish collection
- Stormwater and drainage maintenance
- Town planning and building controls
- Environment protections, public nuisance and noise management

Local government is responsible for **less than 4%** of the total tax collected nationally.

Did you know?

Councils spend around 38% of their total operating expenditure on ‘Infrastructure’, that includes things like roads, bridges, footpaths, kerbing, parks and gardens, sports facilities, swimming centres, jetties, cemeteries and public toilets.

Did you know?

Combined, South Australian councils maintain over \$25 billion in public assets such as roads, pavements, jetties, parks & playgrounds.



Councils are about more than roads and rubbish collection.

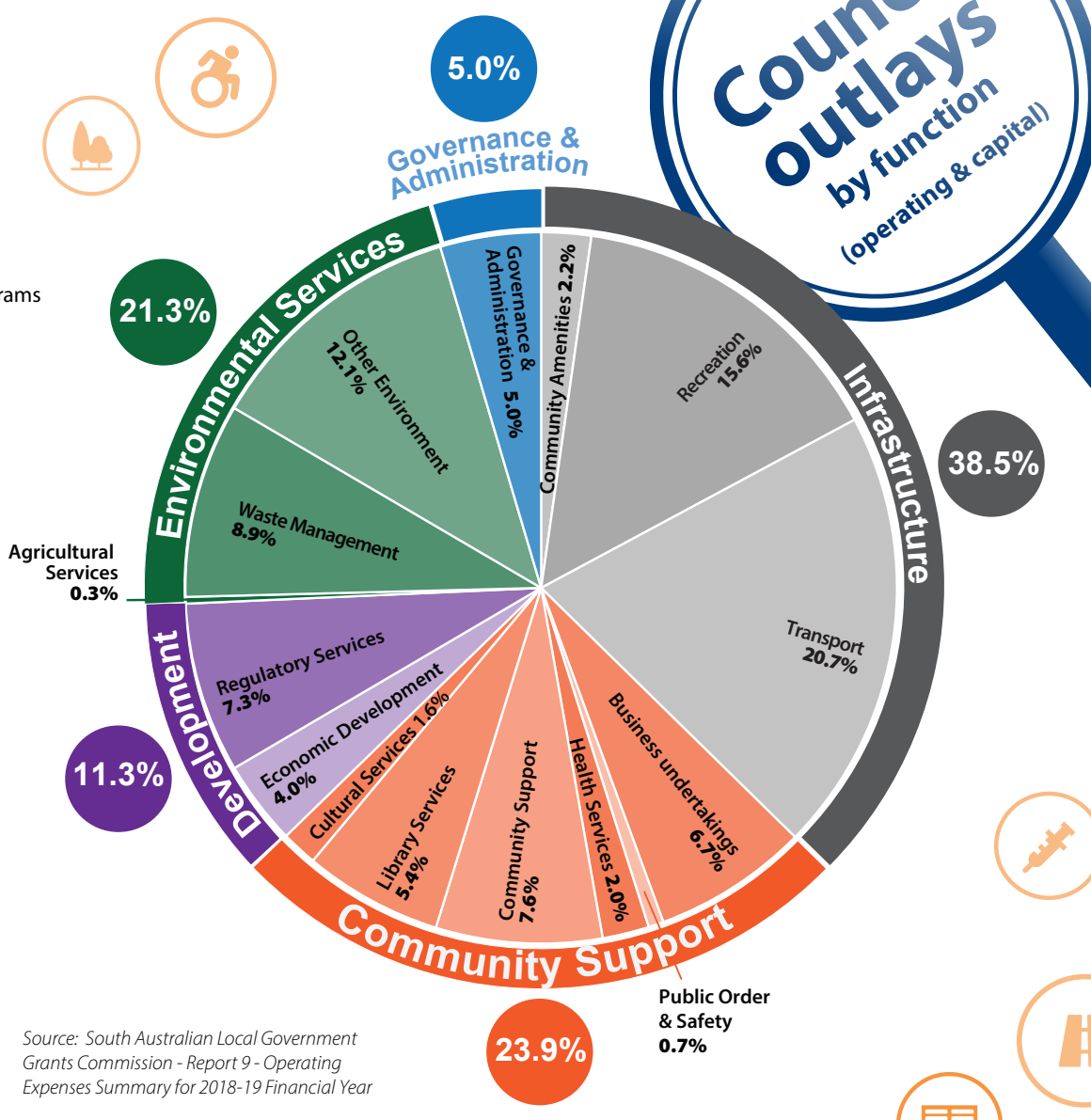
They're responsible for delivering hundreds of services and facilities that contribute to building strong and vibrant communities.

Some examples of council services and activities are listed below:

council services

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|----------|--|----------|--|----------|------------------|
| A | Aged Care Services
Abandoned Vehicles
Arts & Cultural Programs | P | Parks & Gardens
Picnic Areas
Planning Applications
Playground
Public Swimming Pools
Public Toilet | V | Vermin Control |
| B | Bicycle Tracks
Building Applications and Approvals
Bus Shelters
Bushfire Prevention
Burning Permits
Busking Permits
By-laws | R | Rates
Recreation & Sport Facilities
Recycling | W | Waste Management |
| C | Caravan Parks
Cemeteries
Children's Services & Support
Coastcare and Dunecare
Community Buses
Community Centres
Community Leadership & Advocacy
Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS)
Control of Public Nuisances
Cultural Development | S | Skate Parks
Stormwater Drainage & Reuse
Street Cleaning
Street Lighting
Street Signs | Y | Youth Support |
| D | Dog & Cat Management
Disability Services | T | Tourism & Information Centres
Traffic Control | Z | Zoning |

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| E | Economic Development & Business Support
Employment/Training Programs
Environmental Services
European Wasp Control |
| F | Festivals & Events
Fire Prevention
Food & Health Inspections
Footpaths
Free Internet in Libraries |
| G | Graffiti Control |
| H | Heritage Protection |
| I | Immunisations |
| L | Libraries
Local Museums & Heritage
Local Roads |
| O | Online Services
On Street Parking
Ovals |



Source: South Australian Local Government Grants Commission - Report 9 - Operating Expenses Summary for 2018-19 Financial Year