

# We give local governments peace of mind.

Project Aware is a unique governance support service created by Civic Legal to strengthen the governance practices and culture in Western Australian local governments. If governance is done well, it enables the organisation to operate in a predictable way, saving time and effort. If it is not done well, it can expose the local government to risks.

Local governments are subject to high levels of scrutiny. It has become more important than ever before for them to make governance a priority.

## This is why Civic Legal developed Project Aware: to help local governments achieve higher standards of governance.

**Through Project Aware contact sessions, the Civic Legal governance team will:**

- help you to identify governance issues
- guide you to review and improve systems and procedures
- guide you towards compliance with regulation 17 of the *Local Government (Audit) Regulations 1996* (WA)
- provide you with unique templates to help you review your systems and procedures
- coach your CEO and officers on issues they are facing.

*"The Civic Legal Project Aware team have provided the Shire with amazing advice, direction and support over the past two years. Project Aware has helped us to achieve a far greater awareness and understanding of the requirements of Regulation 17, and how the Shire and Council can work together to address this area of compliance. It has provided us with techniques and strategies to feel confident in new areas of governance."*

**Alan O'Toole, Deputy CEO, Shire of Bruce Rock 2021**

*"On a personal level, I found the team at Civic Legal to be very easy to work with. They pushed us to think analytically and to strive to achieve the best we can; all the while supporting and guiding us to ensure we did our best and were our best."*

**Andrea Selvey, CEO, The Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands 2020**



*"This project ... has proved to be an excellent support tool in the continuous improvement of governance and risk across the Shire ... I would have no hesitation in recommending the program to other Shires, particularly those in regional and remote areas."*

**John Nuttall, CEO Shire of Mt Marshall 2018**

## Want to know more about Project Aware?

The Project Aware governance support service is delivered by the Civic Legal governance team, comprising a specialist local government lawyer and a former local government CEO.

To find out more about Project Aware services and pricing, please call or email Melanie Fraser, Governance & Communications Executive, on 9200 4900 or [mfraser@civiclegal.com.au](mailto:mfraser@civiclegal.com.au)

## Meet the session leaders



**Anthony Quahe**  
Managing Principal

Anthony created the Civic Legal team in 2005, specifically to service the WA local government sector. Under Project Aware, Anthony joins with Neil to coach local government CEOs and administration on how to improve their governance.

[aquahe@civiclegal.com.au](mailto:aquahe@civiclegal.com.au)  
mob: 0421 302 541



**Neil Hartley**  
Governance Consultant

Neil is a respected figure in the WA local government sector, having built a career in local government over the past 40 years, mostly as Chief Executive Officer. Neil brings this in-depth and practical knowledge to his role as coach under Project Aware.

[nhartley@civiclegal.com.au](mailto:nhartley@civiclegal.com.au)  
mob: 0417 942 794

*"This program has been hugely cost-effective for our Shire because the money we spent on it in effecting real improvements in governance (whilst simultaneously equipping us for regulation 17 compliance) would otherwise have been spent on a regulation 17 review by consultants who would not have had anywhere near the same outcomes."*

**Amanda O'Halloran, CEO Shire of Wandering 2019**