

Glossary of Local Government Terms

The following are terms used in relation to local government functions and roles. This page is an extract from the [Local Government Act 1989](#); more terms and further information is contained in the Act.

Capital improved value: The sum which land, if it were held for an estate in fee simple unencumbered by any lease, mortgage or other charge, might be expected to realise at the time of valuation if offered for sale on any reasonable terms and conditions which a genuine seller might in ordinary circumstances be expected to require.

Chief Executive Officer: The person appointed by a Council to be its Chief Executive Officer or any person acting in that position.

Council: Sections 5(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 defines a council in the following way: "A Council consists of its Councillors, who are the representatives, elected in accordance with this Act, of persons who are residents in the Council's municipal district or ratepayers of the Council."

Councillor: A person who holds the office of member of a Council and has been elected by the registered voters of the Council area.

Financial year: The period of 12 months ending on 30 June each year.

How-to-vote card: Any card, handbill, pamphlet or notice which is or includes a representation of a ballot-paper for use in an election or which lists the names of any or all of the candidates for an election with a number indicating an order of voting preference against the names of any or all of those candidates.

Local Government Act 1989 (No. 11/1989): The Local Government Act 1989 outlines councils' purpose to provide for a democratic, efficient and effective system of local government in Victoria, to give councils powers which will enable councils to meet the needs of their communities, to provide for an accountable system of local government and reform the law relating to local government in Victoria.

Municipal district: The district under the local government of a Council.

Municipal enterprise: Any venture under section 193 or any trading or entrepreneurial enterprise under clause 9 of item 7 of Schedule 1 of the [Local Government Act 1989](#).

Order in Council: An Order made by the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council and published in the Government Gazette.

Public notice: A notice published in a newspaper generally circulating in the municipal district of the Council.

Rateable land: Any land that is rateable under section 154. Section 154(1) of the Local Government Act defines rateable land as follows: "Except as provided for in this section, all land is rateable." Section 154(2) of the Act lists the exemptions to rateable land.

Total remuneration: Relates to a Council staff member and the sum of the gross salary of the member and the cost of any other allowance, benefit or remuneration that the member receives from the Council.

Tribunal: Is a reference to a municipal electoral tribunal established under section 44 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Voter: A person who is enrolled on a voters' roll.

Ward: A subdivision of a municipal district and includes a riding.