

Revised NILGA Business Plan 2025 – 2027

The revised plan includes the introduction of internal corporate themes as well as external themes. It includes more cohesive objectives for the business, clearly stating what we are trying to achieve. It refines the way NILGA operates to support the integration of our efforts and our proposed approach to demonstrating impact.



External

Strategic Theme – Empowered and Resourced Councils

Objective– Strengthen local government by securing sustainability, fostering balanced central-local relationships and driving sector-led transformation and innovation

Actions	Completed by
Secure agreement on inclusive government	Mar 2026
Demonstrate through pilot initiatives the benefits of CG and LG working together – Partnership Panel / Program for Government	Mar 2026
Build evidence to reshape rates system	Dec 2026

Strategic Theme – Empowered and Confident Councillors

Objective – Support councillors with high quality learning, strengthened political leadership and an improved Code of Conduct to enhance their effectiveness

Actions	Completed by
Conduct audit to identify gaps and alternative development initiatives/delivery mechanisms	Dec 2025
Develop spokespersons for different issues with capacity building course	Mar 2026
Lobby for revised Code of Conduct	Ongoing

Strategic Theme – Empowered and Supported People and Places

Objective – Advance local decision-making by influencing local decision making, shaping national and regional policy, and fostering social, economic and environmental resilience

Actions	Completed by
Only work on policy work strategically supporting Local government in social, environmental, growth, prosperity, and sustainability	Jun 2025
Delivering local government APG	Sept 2025
Deliver new central / local government MOU and ways of working (P' Panel, reducing bureaucracy, streamlined funding)	Jun 2026

Strategic Theme – Empowered and Valued NILGA	
Objective – Enhance NILGA’s effectiveness by building confidence, strengthening engagement with councillors and officers, and revitalising local democracy through communication and collaboration	
Actions	Completed by
Deliver increased physical meetings (minimum of one per quarter) with party members	Jun 2025
Post executive summary to go to all OBs and them to issue it to their party groups	Jun 2025
Regular OB meetings provide OB with party attendance, focused staff engagement with attendees	Ongoing

Internal

Strategic Theme – Leadership and Governance	
Objective – Strengthen internal structures, governance and collaboration to drive policy innovation and service improvement ensuring NILGA remains adaptive and impactful	
Actions	Completed by
Establish a project team working model to maximise integrated delivery	Apr 2025
Secure additional resources as needed	Nov 2025
Further investment in team development	Ongoing

Strategic Theme – Communication and Engagement	
Objective – Strengthen communication and member engagement by improving transparency, sharing impact, and further enabling executive member roles	
Actions	Completed by
Commitment to 1/3 in-person executive and network meetings	Jun 2025
Give executive members a specific report to table in each council	Jun 2025
Develop a message board of important news – WhatsApp channel or similar app	Jan 2026

Strategic Theme – Innovation and Digital Transformation	
Objective – Adopt new technologies and partnership insights to modernise operations and improve service delivery	
Actions	Completed by
All events and programs move to online registration and event management	Aug 2025
New website launched (March 2026), which focuses on member engagement and policy positions	Ongoing
Staff AI training around key business areas; meetings, events, HR, digital and member training	Ongoing

Strategic Theme – Organisational Effectiveness and Collaboration	
Objective – Enhance teamwork and efficiency through structured meetings, clear interdependencies, and regular engagement	
Actions	Completed by
Establish and deliver project based working teams supporting our objectives (use teams to support)	Apr 2025
Ensure staff meetings always happen and agreed standing agenda in advance	Apr 2025
Internal resourcing plans for each	Jul 2025