

## **RESUME: John Alexander Charles Comrie – 13 May 2015**

<b>Occupation</b>	Self-employed consultant, (Director, JAC Comrie Pty Ltd) and associate of both Deloitte Access Economics and Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government
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<b>Email</b>	john@jacomrie.com.au
<b>Qualifications/Awards</b>	<p>Certified Practising Accountant (Fellow)</p> <p>Grad Dip Bus Admin, University of South Australia (1991)</p> <p>Bachelor of Economics, University of Adelaide (1981)</p> <p>Fellow, Institute of Public Administration Australia</p> <p>Fellow and Certificate of Merit, Local Government Managers Australia</p> <p>Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors' Company Directors Course</p> <p>Inaugural CPA Australia South Australian Public Sector Accountant of the Year (1994) (recognised for work in leading introduction of accrual accounting to local government sector)</p> <p>Currently studying Master of Public Administration (Policy) (Flinders University)(80% complete)</p>

### **Primary Consulting interests**

- Local Government Financial Sustainability (including financial planning, financial indicators and targets, rating, asset management and use of debt)
- Governance
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Public Policy Development
- Financial and Economic Analysis
- Training and Development

### **Experience snapshot**

<b>2006 –</b>	Consultant
<b>2003 – 06</b>	Executive Director, SA Government's Office of Local Government
<b>1997 – 03</b>	Executive Director, Local Government Association of South Australia
<b>1994 – 97</b>	Chief Executive Officer, City of Noarlunga (led my council in 1997 to a successful voluntary amalgamation with 2 neighbouring councils)
<b>1988 – 94</b>	Director Administration & Finance, City of Noarlunga
<b>1982 – 88</b>	Various economic analysis, financial and general management positions SA Government's water supply agency
<b>1974 – 82</b>	Various accounting, internal auditing and financial analysis positions in Australia Post and Telecom Australia

### **Examples of Consulting Assignments/Activity**

#### **■ For NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel**

- Prepared the following reports in 2013:
  - *'NSW Local Government Rating and Charging Systems and Practices'*.
  - *'Roadmap to Financial Sustainability'*.

#### **For Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (IPWEA)**

- Co-authored with two colleagues the *'Australian Infrastructure Financial Management Guidelines'*. This manual has been developed to support sound financial practices by infrastructure intensive public authorities. It is recognised as the 'foundation' manual on this topic by the local government sector in all Australian states.
- Wrote *'Long-term Financial Planning Practice Note'* that provides guidance on technical and practical considerations on preparation of a long-term financial plan in a local government environment.
- Regularly conduct various general and specialist financial strategy and performance and asset management related training programs for local government audiences in all Australian states.

#### **For Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government**

- Prepared various reference papers to provide guidance and stimulate thinking regarding local government financial issues and made presentations and spoken at national Australian local government conferences. Topics have included:
  - Strengthening local government revenue-raising.
  - Role and use of debt in local government.

#### **For Local Government Association of South Australia**

- Retained as 'Lead Consultant Economics and Finance' since 2008. Work undertaken has included:
  - Drafting various 'financial sustainability information papers' to guide improvement in local government financial governance and performance.

#### **For individual councils and other bodies**

- Chairing the audit committees of eight small regionally based South Australian local governments.
- Assistance with rating reviews and preparation and review of long-term financial plans and asset management plans.
- Financial analysis of project proposals including in relation to boundary change, development options, waste and recycling collection and disposal and water supply and wastewater management systems.