

21 August 2015

Dear Subscriber,

We are having a busy month here at SOLGM and are excited to provide the following updates.

SOLGM.org.nz Website Upgrade

A couple of reminders for our website users following on from the upgrade on 17 July:

- If you are registering for our Events you will need to first register as a user in our website. Just follow the links from the [Home Page](#).
- Our new event registration system will recognise whether you are a SOLGM member and automatically apply the correct ticket price. Consequently we have been receiving a number of queries about membership. Membership of SOLGM is individual and not by council. You can find more on how to [apply here](#). Generally you only need to attend two of our events each year to recoup your membership application fee.
- Most of the sector resources information previously in our SOLGM.org.nz site has been moved to our [LGSectorGoodToolkit site](#). The resources in this site are funded by our Sector Good subscriptions and so are available only to councils that subscribe. These were due to be paid for this financial year on the 20th of this month. We have applied a grace period which expires on 31 of August. After that date you will need to have your council password to access the information in this site.

If you have any questions regarding our websites please email us at info@solgm.org.nz.

Sector Operational and Management Effectiveness Self-Assessment Programme

We launched this Programme, developed by PwC Australia, last month and are really pleased with the number of councils that are already signed up.

The Programme is part of an on-going partnership with sister organisation Local Government Professionals Australia, NSW. They have, in conjunction with PwC, Australia, been operating the Local Government Operational and Management Effectiveness Self-Assessment Programme successfully for the past two years in 80 NSW councils and are just about to launch the third survey. If we achieve enough up-take in New Zealand our councils will take part in this third survey. For more information take a look through the [Q&A section in our website](#)

For interested councils there are **two important dates** to keep in mind:

- The Early Bird discount is available till 11 September
- The Final close date is 14 September.

Launch of our new LGAccelerated Leadership Programme

In partnership with the Capability Group we have just launched a brand new leadership development programme for local government staff. The LGAccelerated Leadership Programme is built around five key leadership areas with participants completing five modules, each beginning with a face-to-face workshop. They then utilise self-directed learning between workshops. The Programme is aimed at mid-tier staff looking to develop their leadership skills.

The Programme was launched last week at Matamata Piako District Council where 20 staff from around the Bay of Plenty and Waikato regions attended the first of the face-to-face workshops. The other four modules, each beginning with a workshop, will roll out over the coming months.

You can find out more on this exciting new Programme [here](#).

Please don't forget to check out our **Event Calendar** for our upcoming events including:

- [Streamliner Communication Professionals Forum](#) on in Wellington, 15 & 16 September
- [Managing Difficult Conversations](#) course on in Wellington on 1 & 2 October
- [Electoral Officers Training 2015](#) on in Wellington on 12 & 13 October
- [Webinar: BERL 2015 – New Adjusters, Same Economy](#) online on 14 October

Lastly, the format of this newsletter has been affected by our website upgrade. Future newsletters will be in the new and improved design.

Warm Regards

The team at SOLGM

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