

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DLGSC Act Review](#)
Subject: Concerned ratepayer comments re Review of the Local Government Act
Date: Sunday, 31 March 2019 8:53:13 AM

Dear Sir or Madam

Please find below my comments which I would like adding to others you will have received.

- The delegated authority balance should be addressed - noted at Belmont too much has been given to the officers and councillors do not seem to have a handle on what is going on in the City.
- The separation of powers has gone too far - especially when you have a bad CEO - this can destroy a council.
- Every council should have a Complaints Management Policy/Process - if the City of Belmont has one they either cant or wont produce it for the residents to read.
- Better planning laws are needed that are more tailored to the area and not a centralised plan. The JDAP needs to be reviewed and more input is required from residents and interested parts.
- Introduction of Third Party Rights - to give affected parties the chance to have a voice.
- WALGA needs to be investigated - including their monopoly on insurances.
- The preferred tendering process has interbreeding happening with members of WALGA on the Regulatory Board and Regulatory Board members on the WALGA Board.
- Councillors need to be held accountable for their actions with tougher penalties that need to be enforced - the code of conduct is a joke if it cannot be enforced (comment to me by Minister Templeman that the code of Conduct was going to be reviewed and made tougher - to which I laughed - he asked why and I replied people cant read - he looked at me - and I replied you already have a code of conduct that is not adhered to and nothing is done about it so until you start enforcing it with stiffer penalties nothing is going to change)
- Officers need to be accountable for their actions - otherwise we are going to end up with councils that have the same privileges as parliamentarians'.
- Real estate agents and developers should not be allowed to run for council in the area they do business - they have a conflict of interest and have prior knowledge of changes in the area and can potentially affect changes to their advantage.
- Question times seems to be a problem for the council officers as well councillors to the extent that they continually look at ways to limit questions.
- Open and accountable and transparency is not on some the councils in WA agenda and even more so in the City of Belmont with some really inventive excuses for not having the minutes recorded such as my family would be at risk because everyone would know I am not at home - well most interested people would know you would be at council most Tuesdays as a councillor - simple answer don't run for council if

you have those concerns for you family.

- Councillors should only be allowed to hold office for 2 terms (8 years) far too many councillors have been on council for 4 plus terms and in many cases this leads to a dead wood culture with no chance for change (other names branded around are 'Purple Circle' and 'Boys Club').

Happy to be contacted should you wish to discuss any of my statements in further detail.

Regards

Janet Gee