

Steve Walker
WA Local Government Act Review Phase 2.
Additional File One.

Then you can “empower them” and give them “autonomy”. Wider boundary local governments are smarter, efficient, modern, enabled, more inclusive.
33 is small factional groupings.

Include recordings of Ordinary Council Meetings online. Believe *Ordinary Council Meetings* be video and audio recorded, placed online.

Leave *Draft Briefings/Agenda Briefings* as not recorded so Council Members not afraid to talk widely on the items.

Red Tape reduction.

- a). 33 Perth metro Local Government Authorities.
- b). Duplication, inefficiencies, and money waste. All the sorts of problems stated and identified in the Robson Review(2012). Including unoptimal transport planning, road upgrades, library locations, unoptimal aquatic centre locations.
This problem costs the State of Western Australia hundreds of millions of dollars per year. Yet self-serving local governments, 33 CEOs, and 33 organisations –with all their Divisions want to hide the problem, and job/high salary protect.
- c). Solution is far less Perth metro local governments! Ten or Twelve is the maximum there should be. Resident populations of *Perth metro local governments* should be at least ~115 000 (ie. A western suburbs local government) to ~300 000 persons. The average populations should be 250 000 persons. *City of Stirling* has shown you can successfully do this in a metro area.

Note: There should also be gradual reduction in regional areas local governments – though population should not be a factor in that reduction as there are many small populated local governments already covering vast areas.

Remove Regulatory measure of individual polls for local government authorities with populations under 100 000 residents. It is near impossible for many smaller local governments to ‘agree’ to boundary or structure changes for local government reform. The voting method and decision-method(by a *State Government*) is too complex. The difficulty of *any State Government* to change boundaries. The Difficulty of votes carrying for reform.

Solution. *State Governments* need to be able to decide. If they choose, it happens.

The false problem of ‘identity being lost’. Solution: A Legacy System where ‘histories’, ‘efforts’, ‘personal efforts’, are recognised through new local government entities. Where metro citizens are assured ‘the counter has not reset’.

Fact: *Federal Governments and WA State Governments* affect suburbs far more than *Local Government Authorities*. Keating, Howard, Rudd, Gillard have truly changed the balance & shape of most suburbs. State Governments of Burke, Richard Court,

Gallop, Carpenter, recent Barnett-Grylls have influenced Perth metro suburbs and many local governments far more (generally) speaking than any Local Government.

The Legacy System I have suggested can include the recent decade of website material, plus reserving a corner of the room for the team(ex-local government) flag, and team song. If that is what it takes to keep the protesters happy then I am sure that (10 or 12)new Perth metro Entities can accommodate this.

Regional Subsidiaries.

The State Government strongly supports local governments working collaboratively, and an effective subsidiary model. I worry this could be at the expense of *Local government reform* to deliver less metro local governments. Many *Perth metro local governments* have used the ‘hype’ of regional collaborations on Waste services to thwart reform.

Thankyou.
Steve Walker.