

From:

Sent:

Monday, 5 March 2018 4:42 PM

To:

RECEIVED

08 MAR 2018

Subject:

Department of Local  
Government, Sport &  
Cultural Industries

FW: re submission on COUNCILLOR GIFTS

**SUBMISSION ON COUNCILLOR AND PARLIAMENTARIANS GIFTS-  
AS INVITED BY DAVID TEMPLEMAN**

***Further to my e-mail dated 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017 to the Minister Templeman discussing capping of expenditure by individual councillors on their electoral campaigns to ensure a level playing field is developed in communities electing potential councillors.***

***I reinforce this recommendation on the basis of unfairness of competition. Ie A person who gets \$39,000 in donations against candidate who is not funded and only has \$1500 of his/her savings money to use has the greater potential to succeed. As was the case in recent Mandurah elections.***

***The Local Mandurah Mayor developed a GO FUND ME MAYOR Campaign but formally denies he has never asked for money.***

***How can they be trusted?***

***4 double page wraps in the Local Newspapers would suggest how this money was spent to get noticed.***

***In relation to Gifts to councillors I ask this question:***

**On what account should a Government Minister or in relation to the Local Government Act more to the question in hand...should a gift be accepted as normal practise?**

## ***And why??***

***Our elected representatives these days are paid well for their work.***

***Expenses to assist their work is also compensated.***

***Having served 35 years in several Local Authorities with Town Clerk Qualifications I did not witness any such concerns in this area as Staff/candidates knew better than to received backhanders on moral grounds.***

***Why should it be any different today?***

***Politics is becoming a thorn in LOCAL GOVERNMENT***

***There is no logical reason for gifts to be part of our Local Government except maybe those non personal ones made to Sister Cities.***

***I have read so many letters to the Editor in the West stating my views as well as from the WALGA President.***

### **WORK HOUSE SESSION IN CITY OF MANDURAH CHAMBERS.**

***I attended the session in Mandurah which attracted approx. 11 persons. Two staff and 9 others.***

***When put to the vote it was unanimous that no gifts whatsoever be permitted.***

***The staff convening the workshop were pushing for a \$500.00 limit and appeared fixed on this was the way to go.***

***The lady convenor tried to argue the point.. what if her boyfriend gave her an engagement ring would that be a gift.***

***I believe the Governments agenda for the new legislation will be a \$500 limit.***

***There were 5 of us locals on one side of the table and 4 on the other.***

***Our side were strictly against gifts the others who I feel had been to other meetings were for it.***

***My observation in conclusion is that the meeting was delivered on having the limit mentioned with no verbal support from the chair position to consider the argument for the no gift proposal the majority voted for.***

## **CONCLUSION:**

***All councillors get paid for their positions and there should not be any moral occasion that they be entitled to anything more other than approved Council policy expenses.***

***If they did receive a gift they are merely getting more benefits than what they have already been paid for.***

***You do not get paid twice for the same service.***

***I wish the committee well in working through the submissions and emphasise that they do away with the GIFTS all together and there will be no more SAT Cases and ill feeling that has now got out of control completely.***

***RESTORE THE TRUST IN OUR LOCAL MEMBERS WHO HAVE LOST THE COMMUNITIES RESPECT OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.***

***HERE IS YOUR ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT --VOTE NO TO GIFTS.***

***Thanking you for the opportunity to express my views  
Kind regards***

***David Kindred***

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**