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From: Cr Gabi Ghasseb [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 18 February 2022 9:28 PM
To: DLGSC Act Review
Cc: [REDACTED]; Punch, Don
Subject: Local Government Reform Submission - Buy Local Regional
Attachments: WA Buy Local Policy 2020_1.pdf

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Please note that this submission is a personal submission and does not seek to represent the City of Bunbury.

Dear Minister Carey

Please find the following condensed personal submission:

1. That regional Local Governments (LGs) be required to increase their local content of goods, services and works procurement to a minimum of 75% of their procurement by value. This to be a target over a five-year period. Currently the average proportion (TBC) is closer to about 50% local and 50% external to the region. Explanation- Regional LG's expend large amounts of their procurement budgets outside their regional areas, in particular to the Perth Metropolitan Area. This causes massive social and economic harm to the regional LG's. For example, if an LG spends around d \$10mil of ratepayer funded procurement outside their region, that is an economic loss of about \$70mil (dissipation rate x7). That is the equivalent of about 500 jobs for a year, plus spin off effects (houses, businesses etc). Changing the expenditure proportions to 75/25 would be of high significance to the regional LG's residences. It is acknowledged that some expenditure such as utilities would be difficult to change, hence the 25% external spend.
2. To aid in the above target, The Minister for Local Government to introduce legislation for regional LG's similar to that of the Western Australian Buy Local Policy 2020 (attached). Sample excerpt: *"designed to ensure that businesses and workers in regional WA benefit from the State Government's significant annual spend on goods, services and works"*.

Best regards,



Councillor Gabi Ghasseb JP

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