

18 March 2013

Department of Local Government
GPO Box R1250
Perth WA 6844

Metropolitan Local Government Review

Committee for Perth Submission on the Final Report of the Independent Panel

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Metropolitan Local Government Review Final Report of the Independent Panel. The Committee for Perth commends the robust and transparent nature of the review process and on this basis has confidence in and strongly supports the final recommendations of the panel.

We support all of the panel's recommendations, however we believe that recommendations 1 to 16; recommendation 21 and recommendations 26 to 30 are the most critical.

We believe that these recommendations address the major challenges facing governance of the Perth region, and if properly implemented, will build the strength, capacity and effectiveness of local government and provide Perth with the type of governance structure that is needed to set the region on a pathway towards a bright future.

We now believe that the critical issue is how, and how quickly, the recommendations of the panel are implemented and we therefore call on the State Government to commence, without delay, the implementation of the recommendations in their entirety.

This should begin, as a priority, with the establishment of the Local Government Commission as an independent body to administer and implement the structural and governance reforms recommended by the panel, and by initiating the necessary legislative reviews and changes that will be needed to enable structural change.

Once established, we believe that the Commission should place urgency on undertaking the necessary detailed reviews, in particular the proposed review of State and local government functions, including a review of state and local authority planning approval powers, which are critical to the successful implementation of the recommendations.

The Commission should also begin to assist Councils to prepare their organisations and residents for change to ensure that the change process is as smooth and efficient as possible.

Committee for Perth Limited

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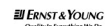
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Our work is fully funded by our members & foundation partners. We acknowledge:



A complete list of current members is available at: www.committeeforperth.com.au

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the recommendations of the Review Panel. We commend the State Government on undertaking the review of Metropolitan Local Government structures in Perth and look forward to the implementation process proceeding as soon as practicable.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marion Fulker', written in a cursive style.

Marion Fulker
CEO