



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT REVIEW ►► DELIVERING FOR THE COMMUNITY

# Community engagement

As part of the McGowan Government's reform agenda, a new Local Government Act will be drafted.

Our vision is for the local government sector to be agile, smart and inclusive.

Our objective is to transform local government so that it is empowered to better deliver quality governance and services to their communities now and into the future.

We are looking at **community engagement** as an area of reform.

## The current system

Local governments are **required to consult with the community** on:



Developing their 10 year **Strategic Community Plan**.



**Changes to local laws** such as laws around dog ownership or parking fees.



Applying **different rates** according to zoning, land use or vacant land.



**Planning matters** including development applications.

## Ideas for change

- Better define the role of local government.
- Local governments to have a community engagement charter, which includes minimum standards for community engagement.
- Require councils to adopt social media policies, including appropriate use in community engagement.

## What you've told us

- People think there is a perceived lack of transparency in decision making.
- There are inconsistent community engagement approaches across local government.
- Community expectations of engagement have changed.
- New technologies have changed the ways local governments can engage with their communities.



## What do you think?

This is just a snapshot of the reforms being considered on this topic.

We want to hear your ideas.

You can learn more or have your say at [www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/lgareview](http://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/lgareview)