



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT REVIEW ►► DELIVERING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Council conduct and governance

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 ways that DLGSC can **help local governments with governance issues** as an area of reform.

The current system



The Act sets out the **powers to scrutinise the affairs of local governments**.



The **complaints process for alleged breaches** differs depending on the type of breach.



Councils make **decisions based on information** provided by local government administration.



Tendering and procurement continue to be the subject of many complaints and departmental investigations.

Ideas for change

- All complaints of a breach of the Act are referred to the department for investigation.
- Issue infringement notices for some offences.
- Embed an experienced and suitably qualified person into council and/or administration to assist with decision making.
- Introduce an offence that applies to employees or CEOs who provide false or misleading information to council.
- Introduce an offence for breaches of the tendering requirements.

What you've told us

- The community expects misconduct and organisational dysfunction to be dealt with appropriately.
- CEOs or employees who knowingly provide false or misleading information to council should be held accountable.
- The ability for the State to intervene to help local governments when they are in trouble is too limited.
- A breach of the tendering provisions should be considered an offence.



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