

LG Reform – November 2021 commencement



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12th November 2021

The second tranche of local government reforms commenced on 10 November 2021.

The Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Act (Commencement) Proclamation 2021 (**Proclamation**) set a number of sections of the Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Act 2021 (**Review Act**) to commence on 10 November 2021.

The reforms to the Local Government Act 1999 (Local Government Act) primarily relate to:

- simplifying and consolidating the public inspection/display of certain council documents;
- amending the procedures for review of council decisions and requests for services under section 270 (including a new prescribed application for review fee);
- an increase in the maximum by-law penalty for the first time in over a decade; and
- amending the CEO appointment, performance review and termination processes.

A number of reforms also relate to local government elections, including:

- changes to the nomination process;
- changes to core election dates; and
- new requirements for candidates to furnish campaign donations returns prior to the close of voting.

The LGA has a range of information available to assist councils in understanding the changes to the Local Government Act. This information can be accessed here:

Local Government Reform Portal

Please note, the LGA is still in the process of finalising information on the reforms relating to local government elections. Information and resources on these reforms will be included on the Local Government Reform Portal as they are finalised. Election reforms will also be incorporated into election material and training for the 2022 local government elections. The changes do not require any immediate action from councils.



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