

Local Government Board

Key Issues Raised

- Some of the administrative processes for the Local Government Board can be time-consuming and unnecessary.
- Some of the current functions of the Local Government Board duplicate functions of the Director of Local Government and can confuse the lines of responsibility.
- The current make-up of the Local Government Board is heavily prescribed.
- The Local Government Board is responsible for undertaking structural reviews of the sector and making recommendations to the Minister for change. The tools and options available for structural change are currently limited.



Proposed Reform Directions

- Retain the Local Government Board, to be established and directed by the Minister to undertake strategic reviews of local government, such as:
 - a review of councillor numbers and allowances every eight years or two election cycles; and
 - a review of the 'State of the Sector' every five years.
- The Local Government Board would no longer be able to review the operation of a council, as operational reviews would be carried out by the Director of Local Government.
- A power would be provided for a voluntary amalgamation to occur without the need for a Local Government Board, if it is requested by two or more councils.