

From: [Minister Vincent](#)
To: [Ald Louise Bloomfield](#)
Cc: [Consultation, LG](#)
Subject: RE: feed back local government amendment Bill 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 9 October 2025 2:24:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)

OFFICIAL

Thank you for your email.

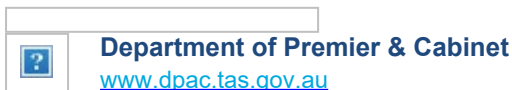
Your feedback has been forwarded to the Office of Local Government for inclusion in the consultation process.

Regards

Office of the Hon Kerry Vincent MLC

Minister for Housing and Planning
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Local Government
Member for Prosser

Level 10, 15 Murray Street
Hobart TAS 7000
email: Minister.Vincent@dpac.tas.gov.au



OFFICIAL

From: Ald Louise Bloomfield <Ald.Bloomfield@hobartcity.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 October 2025 12:50 PM
To: Minister Vincent <Minister.Vincent@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Re: feed back local government amendment Bill 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Apologies MORE feedback!

Last night I met and discussed the COC alterations with Minister Abetz. I was interested to note his opinion that COC should not exist at all as they do not exist in Parliament and he felt that they have been weaponised in general.

I have thought long and hard about this and feel that whilst he has a point - the world is somewhat different in Council than it is in Parliament.

In parliament there is an ADDITIONAL level of governance - being that the majority of elected members in the room answer to not just the voters but also to their membership body - those who created the team that got them elected - being the Liberals, Greens and Labor mostly.

They have in the past either disendorsed or placed significant pressure on the offending party to either take a back seat, become independent (and thus without a team and little to no likelihood of re-election) or resign altogether. THIS is the control element that generally works to ensure compliance with society's expectations.

In local Government there are almost no elements of this - only the greens have a preselection process where the elected have to answer.

There is also an expectation of a more collaborative process in Chamber - unlike the teamwork in Parliament. Collaboration fails when parliamentary antics are applied as adversarial process is highly destructive on many fronts.

Thus we have a COC process. And frankly the more I think of it - the way the law reform is moving to TASCAT with greater powers I feel is a good thing. It is a more judicial process with the high legal standards to be applied and as a result the community can reasonably feel a fair result will be its outcome.

I hope to goodness I never have a COC placed upon myself, but should it occur I would expect that a fair judicial system apply should it happen. It does concern me that I will face significant costs for process that are not covered - and I do not think I have any insurance available for such? That might be something we could all investigate - PI indemnity as an elected member!

Sincerely

Alderman Louise Bloomfield
Hobart City Council

OFFICIAL

From: Minister Vincent <Minister.Vincent@dpac.tas.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 11:48 AM

To: Ald Louise Bloomfield <Ald.Bloomfield@hobartcity.com.au>

Cc: Consultation, LG <LG.Consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au>

Subject: Re: feed back local government amendment Bill 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Regards

Office of the Hon Kerry Vincent MLC

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Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

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email: Minister.Vincent@dpac.tas.gov.au



Department of Premier & Cabinet

www.dpac.tas.gov.au

OFFICIAL

From: Ald Louise Bloomfield <Ald.Bloomfield@hobartcity.com.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 8 October 2025 12:05 PM

To: Minister Vincent <Minister.Vincent@dpac.tas.gov.au>

Subject: Saved to CM: feed back local government amendment Bill 2025

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Dear Minister Vincent,

Feedback:

28aB Mandatory core Learning

Firstly it was my understanding that part of the nomination process was successful completion of online modules - but that is not here?

Secondly whilst the training mentioned here is mandatory there is no mention of what happens if the elected member fails to satisfactorily complete the training in the prescribed time frame. I believe that this is material to the word mandatory.

I much appreciate and welcome the changes to be frank. My time as elected member on Hobart City Council has been incredibly challenging - not from the

representation of ratepayers, applying planning law or general council business - but from handling the behaviour of other elected members in and outside council chamber.

I still to this day feel incredibly vulnerable as an individual who cannot access the same legal rights as any other ratepayer. I have been personally assaulted by another elected member in a workshop but have so little faith in the present system chose to not report it formally and instead ask that the meetings be set up to ensure I am physically safe in future. This is ENTIRELY due to to the current failures of the present legal framework.

Additionally there is little to no recourse to dreadful professional slurs on my status as a tax agent and other professional persons who supply reports to council in meetings. In the 'real world' there would be genuine opportunity to seek recourse. I struggle to believe that this will change even with these new reforms.

ADDITIONALLY I note with extreme concern that should an elected member not like the outcome of a COC that they push it to appeal - and in some instances to supreme court - taking many many months - and no final resolution to date. Meanwhile the behaviour continues.

More troubling is that I am now getting contacted by other elected members who 'want to know how to get an appeal and bury a coc result they dont like'

I have heard most troublingly that there have been suspensions issued with no public reporting of such. Is this true? How is this following the law if so?

I don't know if its in a different part of the law reform upcoming but we have real issue with how meetings are conducted STILL. I would like to see more support and stronger messages in how to appropriately handle things.

All the same I am genuinely grateful for the changes at hand and welcome the work that you are all doing and continue to do x

Sincerely

Alderman Louise Bloomfield
Hobart City Council

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