

# **ATTACHMENT TO AGENDA ITEM**

**Special Meeting**

**14 September 2016**

<b>Agenda Item 5.4</b>	<b>Submission in response to the Local Government Act 1989</b>	
<b>Attachment 1</b>	<b>Council Submission in response to Directions Paper (Act for the Future) - Directions for a new Local Government Act .....</b>	<b>170</b>

# Act for the Future - Directions for a new Local Government Act Submission Template

Organisation	Greater Shepparton City Council
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## Chapter 2: Contemporary councils capable of meeting future challenges

### Direction 1 proposes to:

→ Require councils to take the following principles into account when performing their functions and exercising their powers:

- the need for transparency and accountability
- the need for deliberative community engagement processes
- the principles of sound financial management
- the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipality
- the potential to cooperate with other councils, tiers of government and organisations
- plans and policies about the municipality, region, state and nation
- the need for innovation and continuous improvement
- any other requirements under the Act or other state or federal legislation.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

### Direction 2 proposes to:

→ Provide that the role of a council is to:

- plan for and ensure the delivery of services, infrastructure and amenity for its municipality, informed by deliberative community engagement
- collaborate with other councils, tiers of government and organisations
- act as an advocate for its local community
- perform functions required under the Act and any other legislation.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

### Direction 3 proposes to:

→ Provide that councils have the powers described in the Act and in other legislation.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

**Direction 5 proposes to:**

- Expand the role of the mayor to include the following powers and responsibilities:
- to lead engagement with the community on the development, and the reporting to the community at least annually about the implementation, of the council plan
  - to require the CEO to report to the council about the implementation of council decisions
  - to appoint chairs of council committees and appoint councillors to external committees that seek council representation
  - to support councillors—and promote their good behaviour—to understand the separation of responsibilities between the elected and administrative arms of the council
  - to remove a councillor from a meeting if the councillor disrupts the meeting
  - to mutually set council meeting agendas with the CEO
  - to be informed by the CEO before the CEO undertakes any significant organisational restructuring that affects the council plan
  - to lead and report to council on oversight of the CEO's performance
  - to be a spokesperson for the council and represent it in conduct of public civic duties.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Need to define what is considered an 'extraordinary situation' in which the Mayor could remove a Councillor for disruptive behaviour.

**Direction 6 proposes to:**

- Review the formula for setting mayoral allowances in light of the proposed expanded role of mayors.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Suggest implementing a performance strategy to monitor all Councillors performance.

**Direction 9 proposes to:**

Consider deputy mayoral allowances in light of the expanded role of deputy mayors.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→ **Direction 11 proposes to:**

- Require councillors to recognise and support the role of the mayor specified in the Act.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→ **Direction 12 proposes to:**

- Provide that councillors are entitled to all relevant entitlements consistent with other significant public offices (such as for disability support, maternity leave and childcare).

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**Direction 13 proposes to:**

→ Require the CEO to provide support to the mayor by:

- consulting the mayor when setting council agendas
- keeping the mayor informed about progress implementing significant council decisions, including reporting on implementation when asked to do so
- providing information the mayor requires to meet the responsibilities of the role
- informing the mayor before making significant organisation changes that that affect the council plan
- supporting the mayor in their leadership role (such as by ensuring adequate council resources and access to staff for the proper conduct of council meetings and for civic engagements).

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

And to a lesser degree, consult with Councillors.

→ **Direction 14 proposes to:**

→ Require all councils to have a CEO remuneration policy that broadly aligns with the Remuneration Principles of the Victorian Public Sector Commission's *Policy on Executive Remuneration for Public Entities in the Broader Public Sector*.

→ **Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 15 proposes to:**

→ Require the audit and risk committee to monitor and report on a council's performance against the remuneration policy.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→ **Direction 16 proposes to:**

→ Require the mayor to get independent advice in overseeing CEO recruitment, contractual arrangements and performance monitoring.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Support comments in the VLGA submission regarding 'testing the market' at the expiry of each contract.

**Direction 18 proposes to:**

→ Include high-level principles about council decision-making processes: namely, that they be open and accountable.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→ **Direction 19 proposes to:**

→ Require councils to adopt rules about internal council processes that are consistent with the high-level principles in the Act.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Believe they should be consistent across all Councils.

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→ **Direction 20 proposes to:**

- Include in the new Act that a council may determine that information is confidential if:
  - it affects the security of the council, councillors or council staff
  - it would prejudice enforcement of the law
  - it would be privileged from production in legal proceedings
  - it would involve unreasonable disclosure of a person's personal affairs
  - it relates to trade secrets or would disadvantage a commercial undertaking.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→ **Direction 21 proposes to:**

Require a committee to which a council may delegate any of its powers to be known as a special committee and require it to include at least two members who are councillors.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 22 proposes to:**

- Allow councils to establish administrative committees to manage halls and reserves, with limited delegated powers including limits on expenditure and procurement; and for councils to approve annually committee rules that specify the roles and obligations of administrative committee members.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 27 proposes to:**

- Require a council CEO to consult the staff if there is a major organisational restructure.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 30 proposes to:**

- Retain the power of the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the minister, to revoke a local law that is inconsistent with the principles.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→ **Direction 31 proposes to:**

Note that model local laws may be issued as guidelines on various matters to achieve greater quality, consistency and scrutiny. These would be based on best-practice local laws.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No



→ **Direction 32 proposes to:**

- Consult to determine the appropriate value of a penalty unit for local laws and whether the value should be indexed annually.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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**Chapter 3: Democratic and representative councils**

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→ **Direction 35 proposes to:**

→ Include in Regulations a formula for determining councillor numbers and require that the VEC consistently apply it. Base the formula on the ratio of councillors to residents, mediated by the geographic scale of the local government area, loading councillor numbers by one, two or three for geographically vast local government areas.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

-Consider the regions diversity and demographic.  
-Support quotas for female, multicultural and youth Councillors.

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→ **Direction 36 proposes to:**

→ Allow for one of two representative structures—unsubdivided or entirely uniform multi-member wards—to be applied in each municipality. (Option 1) or

→ Allow for one of three representative structures—unsubdivided, entirely uniform multi-member wards or entirely single-member wards—to be applied in each municipality. (Option 2)

→ Initially this would require the VEC to conduct representation reviews to arrive at new council structures for the first council elections after the Act is enacted.

Do you support option 1?  Yes  No

Do you support option 2?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 37 proposes to:**

→ Subject to fixing councillor numbers by formula and reducing the range of representative structures, conduct future electoral representation reviews by exception when the minister directs the VEC to conduct a review on the basis of:

- evidence of a marked increase in population in a municipality
- a request to the minister from a council or members of the community supported by evidence of the need for a review
- in response to a recommendation from the VEC
- on any grounds determined by the minister published in the government gazette.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 40 proposes to:**

→ Consolidate all electoral provisions in a schedule to the Act, arranged according to the model provided by the Electoral Act 2002; retain most provisions in the current electoral regulations; and retain procedural matters (such as prescribing forms and setting fees) in Regulations.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 42 proposes to:**

→ Require the VEC to revise the candidate's nomination form to require candidates to explicitly state that no disqualification conditions apply to them.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 44 proposes to:**

→ Require adoption of a uniform voting method for council elections as determined by the minister after receiving advice from the VEC. Have the minister publish the method to be used in the government gazette 12 months before the general elections.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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## Chapter 4: Councils, communities and participatory democracy

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→ **Direction 46 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to prepare a community consultation and engagement policy early in its term to inform the four-year council plan and ten-year community plan.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 47 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to conduct a deliberative community engagement process to prepare its council plan and to demonstrate how the plan reflects the outcomes of the community engagement process.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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• **Direction 48 proposes to:**

- Include in regulations that an engagement strategy must ensure:
  - the community informs the engagement process
  - the community is given adequate information to participate
  - the scope/remit of the consultation and areas subject to influence are clear
  - those engaged are representative of the council's demographic profile.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 50 proposes to:**



→ Require the mayor to report to the community each year about how the council plan has implemented the community’s priorities as directed through the deliberative community engagement process.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 53 proposes to:**

→ Regulate for minimum standards and include in guidelines best-practice processes for ensuring transparency and accountability in council operations and administration, basing the guidelines on current Melbourne City Council practices.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 55 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to develop a policy about customer complaints that includes a process for dealing with customer complaints, and that the process contain an avenue for independent review that is clearly accessible to the public. Policy and statutory decisions of the council would not be subject to the complaints policy.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

Support the proposal of reporting customer complaints to Councils Audit Committee.

## Chapter 5: Strong probity in council performance

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→ **Direction 58 proposes to:**

→ Extend the offence of release of confidential information to council staff who unlawfully disclose confidential information.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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• **Direction 60 proposes to:**

• Provide that a conflict of interest exists where:

- the councillor or a person with whom they are closely associated stands to gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the decision (a 'material conflict of interest') the councillor has, or could reasonably be taken to have, a conflict between their personal interests and the public interest that could result in a decision contrary to the public interest.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

## Chapter 6: Ministerial oversight of councils

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• **Direction 66 proposes to:**

• Include in the Act principles to apply to a proposal to create a new municipality, that:

- each new municipality shall be viable and sustainable in its own right
- the allocation of revenues and expenditures between municipalities being separated shall be equitable for the residents of each municipality
- the views of the communities affected by the restructuring shall be taken into consideration
- each new municipality shall have sufficient financial capacity to provide its community with a comprehensive range of municipal services and to undertake necessary infrastructure investment and renewal.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

Provide in principle support.

Recommend that amalgamations coincide with Council elections.

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→ **Direction 67 proposes to:**

→ Other than the proposed direction above, retain the current provisions (in Part 10A) about altering external municipal boundaries.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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• **Direction 69 proposes to:**

• Empower the minister to recommend that a councillor be suspended by an order in council where the councillor is contributing to or causing serious governance failures at a council. This power to only be exercisable in exceptional circumstances in that:

- the councillor has caused or substantially contributed to a breach of the Act or Regulations by the council or to a failure by the council to deliver good government and
- a council (by resolution), a municipal monitor, the CMI, the Ombudsman or the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission have recommended that the minister suspend the councillor on these grounds and
- the council, the municipal monitor, the CMI, the Ombudsman or the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission have satisfied the minister that the councillor has been provided with detailed reasons for the recommendation and was given an opportunity to respond to their recommendation and
- the minister is satisfied that if the councillor is not suspended that there is an unreasonable risk that the council will continue to breach the Act or continue to be unable to provide good government for its constituents.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Would need to clearly define the exceptional circumstances in which this could be applied.

→ **Direction 78 proposes to:**

→ Remove the power requiring a contract for a senior officer: all employment matters for council staff will now be subject to employment law.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 79 proposes to:**

→ Explore an alternative method for handling instances of a majority of councillors having a conflict of interest preventing them voting on a planning scheme amendment.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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## Chapter 7: Integrated planning



- **Direction 82 proposes to:**
- Require:
  - a council to prepare and adopt a four-year council plan by 31 December of the second year after a general election
  - preparation of the council plan to be informed by the deliberative community engagement process described in Chapter 4
  - the council plan to include information about services, infrastructure and amenity priorities for the council term.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Believe that the extended time frame to adopt the Council Plan is too long.



**→ Direction 83 proposes to:**

**→** Remove the requirement to submit a copy of the council plan to the minister and replace it with a requirement to publish it on the council website and to have the mayor report annually to the community on the achievement of the council plan.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No



**→ Direction 86 proposes to:**

**→** Require all councils to prepare and adopt a rolling financial plan of at least ten years by 31 December of the second year after a general election, in accordance with the principles of sound financial management, and for council to review and approve this plan annually.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

- **Direction 88 proposes to:**
- Require the financial plan to:
  - guide financial planning and inform the council plan
  - provide the community with prescribed information about the human resource and capital works assumptions and decision-making underlying financial forecasts
  - be informed by the deliberative community engagement process.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No



**→ Direction 89 proposes to:**

**→** Require all councils to prepare and adopt a rolling asset plan of at least ten years by 31 December of the second year after a general election, in accordance with the principles of sound financial management, and for a council to review and approve this plan annually. This plan will guide asset planning and inform the council plan.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No



→ **Direction 92 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to prepare a budget annually and to review it mid-cycle at 31 December each year. Require the CEO to report the results and to explain material budget variations, including whether a revised budget is required, to council.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 93 proposes to:**

→ Include in the Act a clearer definition of material variation in order to clarify when a revised council budget must be struck.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 94 proposes to:**

Remove the requirement to submit a copy of the adopted budget to the minister.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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• **Direction 95 proposes to:**

- Require all councils to establish an audit and risk committee with an expanded oversight of:
  - the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework and all associated documents
  - financial management and sustainability
  - financial and performance reporting
  - risk management and fraud prevention
  - internal and external audit
  - compliance with council policies and legislation
  - service reviews and continuous improvement
  - collaborative arrangements
  - the internal control environment.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→ **Direction 96 proposes to:**

→ Require the audit and risk committee to include a majority of independent members and include councillors, but not council staff.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

**What other comments would you make for this proposal?**

Suggest that staff could be appointed with non-voting rights.

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→ **Direction 97 proposes to:**

→ Require the audit and risk committee to report to the council biannually and require each council to table the biannual audit and risk committee report at a council meeting.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

Include requirement that the report is made available on Councils website.

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→ **Direction 98 proposes to:**

→ Continue to require a council to include information in its annual report of operations about achievements against its council plan, community plan, financial plan, asset plan and budget.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 99 proposes to:**

→ Remove the requirement for a council to submit a copy of its annual report to the minister.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

Should be made available on Councils website as alternative to submitting to Minister.

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→ **Direction 100 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to present its annual report at an annual general meeting at which the mayor must report progress on implementing the council plan.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 101 proposes to:**

→ Require that in developing its council plan, a council take account of relevant aspects of regional and state plans that affect the municipality.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

## Chapter 8: Sustainable finances for innovative and collaborative councils

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→ **Direction 106 proposes to:**

→ Specify in Regulations what must be included in a procurement policy, including when council will go to tender for the provision of goods and services (including thresholds), the process for going to tender and what collaborative arrangements have been explored to deliver value for money for the council.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 107 proposes to:**

→ Require the audit and risk committee to review compliance with the procurement policy and require a council to report in its annual report any non-compliance with its procurement policy.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No



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→ **Direction 108 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to make its procurement policy available on its website.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 110 proposes to:**

→ Provide councils with automatic access to state purchase contracts, whole-of-Victorian-Government contracts and the *Construction Suppliers Register* to save time, strengthen standards and improve efficiency.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→ **Direction 111 proposes to:**

→ Require councils to develop and adopt an investment policy in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and require all council investment decisions to be made in accordance with that policy.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 112 proposes to:**

→ Require the audit and risk committee to review compliance with the investment policy and require a council to report any non-compliance with its investment policy in its annual report.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 113 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to develop and adopt a debt policy in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and only enter into debt in accordance with that policy.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→ **Direction 114 proposes to:**

→ Require the audit and risk committee to review compliance with the debt policy and require a council to report any non-compliance with its debt policy in its annual report.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 115 proposes to:**

→ Remove the overdraft provisions and remove the requirement for the minister to approve the repayment of an overdraft from its borrowings.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 116 proposes to:**

→ Require councils to expressly describe in their budgets any intention to sell, exchange or lease land. This will enable consultation with the community during the budget process.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

Suggest that it can be communicated to the community outside of this process.

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→ **Direction 118 proposes to:**

→ Remove from the Act the requirement for councils to have public liability and professional liability insurance. As a body corporate and organisation with a number of roles and responsibilities to the community and its staff, it is expected as a matter of course that councils take out appropriate insurance policies consistent with effective risk management as well as with the sound financial management principles in the Act.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

What other comments would you make for this proposal?

Failure to comply will have no recourse if removed from the Act.

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## Chapter 9: Fair rates and sustainable and efficient councils

• **Direction 120 proposes to:**

- Require a council to prepare a revenue and rating strategy that:
  - is for at least four years
  - outlines its pricing policy for services
  - outlines the amount it will raise through rates and charges
  - outlines the rating structure it will use to allocate the rate burden to properties.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 121 proposes to:**

→ Require a council to align the strategy to its financial plan and to review and adopt it after each general revaluation of properties.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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• **Direction 122 proposes to:**

- Define all land as rateable except for the following four categories of land that would be exempt:
  - land of the Crown, public body or public trustee that is unoccupied or used exclusively for a public or municipal purpose (to be defined to mean to perform public functions for the common good)
  - land vested or held in trust for any charitable not-for-profit organisation and used exclusively for a charitable purpose (to be defined to mean the relief of poverty, the advancement of education, the advancement of religion or for other purposes beneficial to the community and the environment)
  - land vested or held in trust for any religious not-for-profit body and used exclusively as a residence of a minister of religion or place of worship or for the education to be a minister of religion

- land held in trust and used exclusively as a not-for-profit club for persons who performed service duties under the *Veterans Act 2005*. **(Option 1)** or  
Include land subject to a lease, sublease, licence or sublicense that is used for the purposes in Option 1, provided the lease, sublease, licence or sublicense is for a nominal amount (that is, the lease or rental amount is very small compared with the actual market lease or rental amount: commonly called a peppercorn rent).

→ Make land rateable that is:

- owned by a for-profit organisation but leased to a charitable organisation
- used exclusively for mining purposes. **(Option 2)**

Do you support option 1?  Yes  No

Do you support option 2?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 123 proposes to:**

→ Retain the capacity for councils to grant rebates and concessions and apportion rates based on separate occupancies or activities.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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**→ Direction 124 proposes to:**

→ Require councils to apply capital improved value as the single uniform valuation system for raising general rates. The City of Melbourne would be exempt from this provision.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 126 proposes to:**

Retain differential rates in their current form. Continue through ministerial guidelines to advise that farm land and retirement villages are appropriate for the purposes of levying differential rates at the discretion of councils.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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**→ Direction 127 proposes to:**

→ Require councils to clearly specify how the use of differential rating contributes to the equitable and efficient conduct of council functions compared to the use of uniform rates (including specification of the objective of and justification for the level of each differential rate having regard to the principles of taxation, council plans and strategies and the effect on the community).

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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**→ Direction 129 proposes to:**

→ Retain service rates and charges, renamed 'service charges' but remove their application to the provision of water supply and sewage services.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

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**→ Direction 130 proposes to:**

→ As part of these changes, provide the minister with the power to prescribe the setting of other service charges in Regulations.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

**→ Direction 131 proposes to:**

→ Retain special rates and charges, but provide clearer guidance in the Act about the purpose of special rates and charges, and about the criteria councils should use when declaring them and determining the benefit ratio.

**Do you support this direction?**  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 132 proposes to:**

→ Allow councils to offer ratepayers the ability to pay by lump sum or more frequent instalments on a date or dates determined by a council, provided all ratepayers have the option to pay in four quarterly

instalments. Penalty interest when it is charged is to be charged on any late payment from the respective instalment due date.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 133 proposes to:**

→ Allow a council to use rebates and concessions to support the achievement of their council plan's strategic objectives, provided that the purpose is consistent with their role

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→ **Direction 134 proposes to:**

→ Clarify in the Act that, where a ratepayer successfully challenges the rateability of land, a refund of rates may only be backdated to the date of most recent ownership.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 135 proposes to:**

→ Establish a uniform process and timeline for people wanting a review or to appeal a rates or charges decision.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 136 proposes to:**

→ Incorporate the municipal council rating provisions in the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963* in the Local Government Act. Require in the Act that councils disclose the rates that are struck for cultural and recreational lands.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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→ **Direction 137 proposes to:**

→ Incorporate the municipal council rating provisions in the *Electricity Industry Act 2000* in the Act.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

## Chapter 10: A rational legislative hierarchy

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→ **Direction 141 proposes to:**

→ Include a general power for the minister to make Regulations setting out the requirements councils must meet when exercising their powers or discharging their responsibilities under the Act (for example, requirements about the conduct of elections and mandated obligations under the councillor code of conduct framework). Include in this power capacity for other relevant subordinate legislation (such as legislative instruments like ministerial orders and governor-in-council orders) with the subordinate legislation only relating to matters permitted by the Act.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 146 proposes to:**

→ Retain the current power of the minister to intervene where a council does not comply with the obligations set out in the Act or regulations by imposing a municipal monitor or by issuing a ministerial governance direction.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 148 proposes to:**

→ Empower the minister to release a council from the processes set out in Regulations if the council can show it is successfully discharging its obligations under the Act using different processes.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 150 proposes to:**

→ Create best-practice versions of essential documents that councils are required to adopt. Adoption of these best-practice documents will constitute compliance.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 151 proposes to:**

→ The minister will have a power under the new Act to require the council to adopt best-practice policies and procedures as part of a governance order where governance issues have been identified.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

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**→ Direction 152 proposes to:**

→ Incorporate relevant portions of Part 9, Division 2 and schedules 10 and 11 of the current Act into the *Road Management Act 2004* (or other relevant legislation), to better consolidate the legislation dealing with road management.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 153 proposes to:**

→ Clarify the role of councils in local drainage, waterways and flood management. Consult about whether these are included in the new Act or in the *Water Act 1989*.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 154 proposes to:**

→ List all Acts that impose obligations on councils in a schedule in the new Act, to be updated as new legislation is enacted.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 155 proposes to:**

→ Repeal the *City of Greater Geelong Act 1993* and include relevant provisions in the new Act.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

**→ Direction 156 proposes to:**

→ Retain the *City of Melbourne Act 1993* as a separate Act with the City of Melbourne retaining its distinct electoral provisions. Consider ways to modernise the Act and remove redundant or outdated provisions.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No

→

→ **Direction 157 proposes to:**

→ Consider matters relating to the *Municipal Associations Act 1907* independently of this directions paper in consultation with the Municipal Association of Victoria.

Do you support this direction?  Yes  No