



LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
MANA KĀWANATANGA Ā ROHE

LGC BULLETIN

APRIL 2008

INTRODUCTION

This bulletin provides an update of the Commission's review of the Local Government Act 2002 and Local Electoral Act 2001, as well as an outline of the reorganisation proposals the Commission has before it.

REVIEW of LGA 2002 and LEA 2001

We are on track to provide our final report on the review of the Acts to the Minister of Local Government by the end of June this year. This is a review of the operation of both Acts. The core questions posed by our review are which provisions of the Acts are:

- working well?
- still "bedding in"?
- requiring improvement and, of those, which are likely to be best achieved by further development and dissemination of good practice, or by legislative amendment?

I would like to thank the councils that have provided input to the review to date, be it through submissions or discussions with us.

Survey of all councils

Thank you also to all those councils who have completed the on-line survey associated with the review. For those who have yet to, it is not too late and we encourage you to do so as it will add to the representativeness of the survey's findings, and help us present a national picture of how certain provisions of the LGA 2002 are operating.

Your council was provided with the link to this on-line survey in early April. If your council has yet to complete the survey and needs any assistance with it, please contact Andrew Robertson at andrew.robertson@colmarbrunton.co.nz or on (04) 913-3008. A 100% response rate will ensure all councils' views and experiences are fully reflected in the review's findings.

More about the Review

For more information about the review, see the following on www.lgc.govt.nz.

- Two special topic papers have been completed and provided to the Minister of Local Government. Both of these concerned the LEA 2001, with one being on representation and the other on conduct of elections.
- Social research contracted by the Commission including a post local election survey and a national survey of eligible voters canvassing such issues as awareness of local government and opinions around public input to council decision making.

REORGANISATION PROPOSALS

The Commission has received the following reorganisation proposals.

Proposed Boundary Alteration between Clutha District and Dunedin City

This proposal is for the transfer of the Lake Mahinerangi Catchment from Clutha District to Dunedin City. It was initiated by a petition from 14 residents of the affected area. The two councils resolved to refer the proposal to the Commission rather than having it considered by a joint committee of the two councils or by one of the councils as the "principal local authority". The Commission has called for submissions on the proposal with a closing date of 29 May 2008. For more information see the material about this proposal on www.lgc.govt.nz.

Proposed abolition of Kaikoura District and its inclusion in Hurunui District

This proposal was initiated by a petition from 352 residents of Kaikoura District. Submissions have not yet been sought on this proposal.

For further information on the reorganisation process see our [Representation Guidelines](#).

Regards

Donald Riezebos
Chief Executive Officer
Local Government Commission