Hon Simeon Brown Minister of Local Government Parliament Buildings, Wellington

4th July 2024

E te Minita, tēnā koe

## **Local Government Commission**

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## **Governance Education Strategy for Local Government**

In June 2023 the Commission provided a report to the then Minister of Local Government outlining a holistic governance education strategy, including an overarching capability framework and three supporting pillars: public accountability, good practice budget guidance, and accreditation. At its meeting in June the Commission decided to conclude its work on the governance education strategy.

The Commission has explored options for progressing the governance education strategy while being mindful of the Commission's stewardship role and focussing on how the Commission might work with other sector stakeholders to ensure a collective and cohesive approach to governance education that avoids duplication.

We have explored areas of common interest with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG), Taituarā, and LGNZ. There is clearly a shared will to deliver a governance education strategy that benefits the sector. However, we acknowledge that the context and priorities of the Commission, the sector, stakeholders and this work has changed.

Given the current fiscal environment and the need for efficient resource use, the Commission's ability to advance key areas such as public accountability, funding, and accreditation is limited. The immediate focus should be on fulfilling our statutory role in local authority representation reviews. However, the Commission remains open to revisiting the strategy in future should changes in context warrant it.

Nāku noa, nā

**Brendan Duffy** 

B. J. Duly

Chairperson