Office of the President

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13 October 2014

Hon Ian Hunter, MLC Parliament House North Terrace ADELAIDE SA 5000 DX 56506 ADELAIDE

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Dear Minister

Zan,

Board and Committee Update

The Local Government Association (LGA) wrote to you on 14 July 2014 in relation to the State Government's announcement to reform boards and committees and welcomed discussion on those boards and committees for which we have a direct interest.

As you will appreciate a number of these boards and committees are formed through legislation and their abolition will have an impact upon the distribution of grants to Councils and in some cases the collection of funding through Local Government.

The LGA Board endorsed its position in relation to those boards and committees of interest to it at its meeting on 25 September and having regard to the State Government's interim report. The LGA's recommendations were also discussed at the 26 September 2014 Premier's State Local Government Forum.

Following outcomes from the Forum discussion I am keen to understand how you propose to respond to the interim report recommendations, where appropriate, in addressing development of alternate models for engagement of Local Government.

Below is the relevant comparison table for the specific Boards or Committees that I understand fall within your portfolio responsibilities.

Board/Committee	LGA Recommendation	State Government Recommendation
Board of the Environment Protection	Retain	Other Reform
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Coast Protection Board	Retain	Considering Retaining
Dog and Cat Management Board	Consider transfer to LGA	Subject to further investigation
Native Vegetation Council	Defer. (Retain for now- Seek review of Native Vegetation and NRM)	Consider Retaining



Board/Committee	LGA Recommendation	State Government Recommendation
Natural Resources Management Council	Defer. (Retain for now. Seek review of Native Vegetation and NRM. Include consideration of local excellence project 'regional' recommendations)	Abolish
Natural Resource Management Boards	Defer (Retain for now. Seek review of Native Vegetation and NRM. Include consideration of local excellence project 'regional' recommendations)	Subject to further investigation
Premier's Climate Change Council	Retain	Consider Retaining
SA Heritage Council	Retain	Consider Retaining
South Eastern Water Conservation & Drainage Board	Retain (Review in context of outcomes of the South East Drainage Systems Operations and Maintenance Bill)	Other Reform
Zero Waste SA Board	Defer (Retain until Green Industries SA is formed)	Other Reform
Stormwater Management Authority Board	Retain	Consider Retaining

More specifically with respect to the Dog and Cat Management Board, I understand that the terms of the current chair and some members have lapsed for which a letter was sent to your office in July with new nominees for these positions. We have not received a response and as we understand these were being delayed during the broader Boards and Committees review.

Now that the future of the Board has been determined to be *subject to further investigation*, I would like to suggest that these members be extended for a further six months to ensure continued operation of the Board during that time. At present, the Board has a bare quorum and this makes it difficult to function.

I look forward to working with you on this matter.

Kind regards

Mayor David O'Loughlin

President

Telephone: 8224 2022

Email: lgapresident@lga.sa.gov.au