



BRRAG

Belmont Resident and Ratepayer Action Group Inc.

“To provide an effective voice for the people of Belmont”

14 April 2019

The Mayor and Councillors
City of Belmont
Belmont WA 6104

Dear Mayor Marks and Councillors

As you all know the Local Government Act is going through a major reform. Submissions on the proposed changes have been received from local governments, WALGA, interest groups and members of the public. Many of the City of Belmont submissions followed the recommendations of WALGA.

A number of councils in Western Australia believe that because this new legislation is an important document for the future of local government. The current reference group for policy reform does not have members of the public and councillors who are not nominated by WALGA. Once this policy reform has been completed, it should then go to Parliamentary Committee which would allow more public input into the proposed Act.

We ask that two of our councillors put up the following motion for the May meeting.

The City of Belmont notes that the composition of the current policy reference group for the reform of the Local Government Act excludes the public and councillors and

- a. requests that the Minister allow councillors not nominated by WALGA and members of the public to become involved at that level; and***
- b. when the current process is finalised and legislation drafted, that it be referred to a Parliamentary Committee to allow public hearings and input into the proposed Act.***

The councils at eight localities in WA have already carried this motion. Subiaco, Melville, South Perth, Stirling, Cottesloe, Cambridge, Mundaring and Wiluna.

We hope our Mayor and councillors will follow the lead of the above mentioned councils. Whilst the Officers Recommendations on the CoB submissions, which were mostly in support of WALGA, were carried by council, it was noted that our councillors took a stand on a few important points and voted against them. This is another opportunity for our councillors to make a stand and represent their electorates. It is an important piece of legislation that will govern the future of the City of Belmont well beyond the current staff and councillors we have now.

We remind our Mayor, whilst the CEO may exclude motions from the agenda under certain circumstances, you can use the Standing Orders to get it back on the agenda at the next ordinary

council meeting.

Please be advised this letter will be made available to the residents on the BRRAG website.

Kindest regards
Lisa Hollands
Chairperson BRRAG

, Western Australia, 6105
Australia