



BRRAG

Belmont Resident and Ratepayer Action Group Inc.

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

24 June 2019

The Honourable Member of the Upper House

The current state of local government in Western Australia is in a mess. Councils are operating outside of existing rules, residents are being heard less and less and WALGA is having too much influence in determining the running of local government. '

It was clearly evident in the submission made by the City of Belmont to the review process of local government, that the City supported WALGA in most areas. It was also evident that there was a push for less and less say for the resident and more power to WALGA and the local governments. One example of this was the recommendation to increase the number from the existing 100 to 500 for a residents petition.

We ask that you support the following motion by the Honourable Simon O'Brien MLC in the Upper House on Wednesday 26th June 2019.

2. Select Committee into Local Government (Notice given 5 June 2019) Hon Simon O'Brien:
To move —

(1) That a Select Committee into Local Government is established.

(2) The Select Committee is to inquire into how well the system of Local Government is functioning in Western Australia, with particular reference to —

(a) whether the Local Government Act 1995 and related legislation is generally suitable in its scope, construction and application;

(b) the scope of activities of Local Governments;

(c) the role of the Department of State administering the Local Government Act 1995 and related legislation;

(d) the role of Elected Members and Chief Executive Officers/employees and whether these are clearly defined, delineated, understood and accepted;

(e) the funding and financial management of Local Governments; and

(f) any other related matters the Select Committee identifies as worthy of examination and Report.

(3) The Select Committee shall comprise five Members.

(4) The Select Committee shall report by no later than 12 months after the motion for its establishment is agreed to and may, if it sees fit, provide interim reports to the House.

We hope this very important motion will be supported and the start of local governments that are

workable, transparent, accountable and act in the best interests of the residents. This is sadly lacking at the moment.

Kindest regards

Lisa Hollands
Chairperson BRRAG