

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT — LOCAL LAWS

2772. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts:

I refer to Part 3, Subdivision 2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (Local Laws made under any Act), and ask:

- (a) how many local laws are currently in existence;
- (b) does the Department of Local Government maintain a register of local laws:
  - (i) If not, why not;
- (c) have any councils failed to comply with section 3.16 of the Act, which requires councils to conduct a periodic review of local laws within 8 years:
  - (i) if yes, please list those councils that have failed to comply and the corresponding local law/s which have not been reviewed;
- (d) does a local law continue to have effect, if it has not been reviewed in accordance with section 3.16;
- (e) do Councils face any penalties, disciplinary action or otherwise if they fail to conduct reviews under section 3.16;
- (f) what actions does the Department undertake to ensure Councils comply with section 3.16 of the Act; and
- (g) should a Local Government's annual compliance audit detail any non-compliance with section 3.16?

**Mr D.A. Templeman replied:**

- (a) As at 19 April 2018, there are 4 074 current local laws.
- (b) Yes, the register of local laws is publicly available on the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' website.
  - (i) Not applicable.
- (c) The Department does not have this information.
  - (i) The Department keeps information on new or amended local laws. There is no requirement for a local government to notify the Minister for Local Government or the Department if it reviews a local law and decides that no change is necessary.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) No.
- (f) The Department provides material on its website reminding local governments to review their local laws as part of the principle of good governance.
- (g) The annual compliance audit does not cover this matter. The review of local laws for their continuing relevance is a local issue, best determined by the local government and the community it serves.