

LOCAL GOVERNMENT — GOVERNANCE REVIEW

5306. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the local government governance review for 2018, and ask:

- (a) How many reviews were undertaken;
- (b) Which local governments were reviewed; and
- (c) Please provide a brief synopsis of the review's outcome?

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

- (a) Sixteen
- (b) Cities of Busselton and Greater Geraldton, Town of Port Hedland, Shires of Augusta–Margaret River, Coolgardie, Dandaragan, Denmark, Donnybrook–Balingup, Harvey, Irwin, Katanning, Moora, Murray, Toodyay, Waroona and Wyndham–East Kimberley.
- (c) More than 76 per cent of council members and 89 per cent of management staff completed their respective surveys across all the local governments that participated in the Governance Review program, conducted by the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Council members generally gave higher ratings than management, with an average score difference of 8–9 per cent.

Responses showed that while participants reported a sound theoretical understanding of the separate roles of Council and management, there were a number of indications that this is not following through into practice.

Culture issues were evident in a number of local governments, with particular issues identified regarding relationships between council members and between the council and the management group.