Western Australia

	CONTENTS		
1. 2. 3.	Part 1 — Preliminary matters Short title Commencement Act amended		2 2 2
	Part 2 — Amendments about introductory matters and the constitution of local government		
4. 5. 6. 7.	Section 2.7 amended Section 2.25 amended Section 2.27 amended Section 2.39 amended		3 3 5 6
	Part 3 — Amendments about		
8. 9. 10. 11.	functions of local governments Section 3.27 amended Section 3.47 amended Section 3.58 amended Section 3.64 amended		7 7 7 9
	Part 4 — Amendments about		
	elections and other polls		
12. 13. 14. 15. 16.	Section 4.17 amended Section 4.30 amended Section 4.32 amended Section 4.33 amended Section 4.43 amended Section 4.44A inserted 4.44A. Alteration of rolls	13	10 10 11 12 13 13

\sim	1		-1-
Co	nт	₽r	٦TS

18.	Section 4.48 amended		13
19.	Section 4.59 amended		14
	Part 5 — Amendments about		
	administration		
20.	Section 5.11A inserted		15
20.	5.11A. Deputy committee members	15	13
21.	Section 5.36 amended		16
22.	Section 5.37 amended		16
23.	Section 5.43 amended		16
24.	Section 5.47 replaced		17
	5.47. Superannuation regulations	17	
25.	Section 5.48 amended		17
26.	Section 5.62 amended		17
27.	Section 5.63 amended		18
28.	Section 5.78 amended		18
29.	Section 5.82 amended		18
30.	Section 5.83 amended		18
31.	Section 5.96 amended		19
32.	Part 5 Division 8 heading replaced		19
	Division 8 — Local government payments and gifts to its members		
33.	Section 5.98 amended		19
34.	Section 5.100A inserted		19
	5.100A. Gifts to council members	19	
35.	Section 5.101A inserted		20
	5.101A. Regulations about payment of expenses	20	
	Part 6 — Amendments about		
	financial management		
36.	Section 6.14 amended		21
37.	Section 6.25 amended		21
38.	Section 6.29 replaced		22
	6.29. Valuation and rates on mining and petroleum interests	22	
39.	Section 6.33 amended		23
40.	Section 6.68 amended		24
10.			2 .
	Part 7 — Other amendments		
41.	Section 8.2 amended		25
42.	Section 9.16 amended		25

		C	ontents
43.	Sections 9.49A and 9.49B inserted		26
	9.49A. Execution of documents 9.49B. Contract formalities	26 27	
44.	Various references to "Executive Director"		
	amended		27
45.	Schedule 2.5 amended		28
46.	Schedule 3.1 amended		28
47.	Schedule 3.2 amended		29
	Part 8 — Consequential amendments		
48.	Local Government Amendment Act 2004 amended		30

Western Australia

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Local Government Amendment Bill 2009

A Bill for

An Act to amend the Local Government Act 1995.

The Parliament of Western Australia enacts as follows:

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Part	1	Pro	lim	inary	matters
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This is the *Local Government Amendment Act 2009*.

4 2. Commencement

- This Act comes into operation as follows —
- 6 (a) sections 1 and 2 on the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent;
 - (b) the rest of the Act on a day fixed by proclamation, and different days may be fixed for different provisions.

10 3. Act amended

This Act amends the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Part 2 — Amendments about introductory matters and
the constitution of local government

1	Part	2 — Amendments about introductory matters an the constitution of local government
3	4.	Section 2.7 amended
4 5		In section 2.7(1)(a) delete "directs and controls" and insert:
6 7		governs
8	5.	Section 2.25 amended
9 10 11 12	(1)	In section 2.25(2) delete "Minister." and insert: Minister, unless all of the meetings are within a period of 3 months.
14 15	(2)	After section 2.25(2) insert:
16		(3A) Leave is not to be granted in respect of —
17		(a) a meeting that has concluded; or
18 19 20		(b) the part of a meeting before the granting of leave.
21	(3)	In section 2.25(4):
22		(a) delete "first";
23 24 25 26		(b) delete "council." and insert:council, unless all of the meetings are within a 2 month period.
27		

Part 2 Amendments about introductory matters and the constitution of local government

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1	(4)	After	section 2.25(4) insert:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		(5A)	If a council holds 3 or more ordinary meetings within a 2 month period, and a member is absent without leave throughout each of those meetings, the member is disqualified if he or she is absent without leave throughout the ordinary meeting of the council immediately following the end of that period.
10	(5)	In sec	etion 2.25(5)(b):
11		(a)	delete "while" (first occurrence);
12 13		(b)	at the beginning of subparagraph (i) insert:
14 15			while
16 17		(c)	after subparagraph (ii) insert:
18 19 20			(iiia) while the member is suspended under section 5.117(1)(a)(iv); or
21 22		(d)	after subparagraph (i) insert:
23 24			or
25 26	(6)	After	section 2.25(5) insert:
27		(6)	A member who before the commencement of the $Local$
28			Government Amendment Act 2009 section 5 was
29 30			granted leave during an ordinary meeting of the council from which the member was absent is to be taken to
31			have first obtained leave for the remainder of that
32			meeting.
33			

1	6.	Section 2.27 amended
2	(1)	In section 2.27(4)(a) delete "28" and insert:
4 5		14
6 7 8	(2)	In section 2.27(6) delete paragraph (b) and all of the subsection after it and insert:
9 10 11 12		(b) applies to the State Administrative Tribunal asking for a declaration as to whether or not the member is disqualified and gives a copy of the application to the CEO,
13 14 15		the member is taken to have been disqualified for the reasons indicated in the CEO's notice.
16 17	(3)	After section 2.27(6) insert:
18 19 20		(7A) If subsection (6) applies to a member the CEO is to give the member a written notice to that effect.
21 22 23	(4)	In section 2.27(7) delete "A person other than the CEO" and insert:
24 25		The CEO or any other person
26 27	(5)	After section 2.27(9) insert:
28 29 30 31 32 33		(10) This section as in force immediately before the commencement of the <i>Local Government Amendment Act 2009</i> section 6 applies to and in respect of a notice given under section 2.27(3) before that commencement.

Part 2 Amendments about introductory matters and the constitution of local government

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7.	Section	2.39	amended
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- (1) In section 2.39 delete "A commissioner" and insert:
- 4 (1) A commissioner

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(2) At the end of section 2.39 insert:

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(2) Subsection (1) does not prevent the appointment of a person under Schedule 2.4 clause 4 to fill a vacancy in the office of commissioner.

10 11

1		Part 3 — Amendments about functions of
2		local governments
3	8.	Section 3.27 amended
4	(1)	After section 3.27(1) insert:
5		
6		(2A) In subsection (1) land includes Crown land the subject
7		of a pastoral lease within the meaning of the <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i> section 3.
8 9		Administration Act 1997 Section 3.
	(2)	After section 3.27(3) insert:
10 11	(2)	After section 3.27(3) insert.
12		(4A) For the purposes of subsection (3), planting pasture on
13		land for grazing does not amount to cultivating the
14		land.
15		
16	9.	Section 3.47 amended
17		In section 3.47(2b):
18		(a) after paragraph (b) delete "and";
19		(b) after paragraph (b) insert:
20		
21		(ca) for prescribed non-perishable goods —
22		one month;
23		
24	10.	Section 3.58 amended
25	(1)	After section 3.58(3)(a)(i) insert:
26	. ,	
27		and
28		

1	(2)	In sect	tion 3.5	8(4):	
2		(a)	delete	narao	raph (c) and insert:
3		(4)	derete	paras	rupii (e) uiiu iiiseit.
4			(c)	the ma	arket value of the disposition —
5				(i)	as ascertained by a valuation carried out
6 7					not more than 6 months before the proposed disposition; or
8				(ii)	as declared by a resolution of the local
9				· /	government on the basis of a valuation
10					carried out more than 6 months before
11					the proposed disposition that the local
12					government believes to be a true
13					indication of the value at the time of the
14					proposed disposition.
15					
16		(b)	after p	aragra	aph (a) insert:
17			•		
18			and		
19			una		
	(a)	_		- (-)	
20	(3)	In sect	tion 3.5	8(5):	
21		(a)	delete	parag	raph (a) and insert:
22					
23			(a)	a dispo	osition of an interest in land under the
24				Land 1	Administration Act 1997 section 189 or
25				190; o	r
26					
27		(b)	after n	aragra	aph (b) insert:
28		(0)	31.01 P		
29			or		
30					

1	11.	Section 3.64 amended
2		In section 3.64(d) after "members" insert:
3		
4		and deputy members

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Part 4 — Amendments about elections and other polls

2	12.	Section 4.1	7 amen	ded
3 4 5	(1)	In section 4 and insert:	.17(3) d	elete all the words before "the council may,
6		If a co	uncillo	r's office becomes vacant under
7				and under subsection (4A) this subsection
8		applie	s,	, ,
9				
10 11	(2)	After section	n 4.17(3	3) insert:
12	((4A) Subse	ction (3) applies —
13		(a)	if—	
14 15			(i)	the office is for a district that has no wards; and
16			(ii)	at least 80% of the number of offices of
17			()	member of the council in the district are
18				still filled;
19			or	
20		(b)	if—	
21			(i)	the office is for a ward for which there
22				are 5 or more offices of councillor; and
23			(ii)	at least 80% of the number of offices of
24 25				councillor for the ward are still filled.
_0				
26	13.	Section 4.30) amen	ded
27	(1)	In section 4.	30(1):	
28		(a) dele	te parag	graph (c) and insert:
29				
30		(c)		ade a successful eligibility claim that still
31			has et	fect under section 4.33.
32				

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1 2		(b)	after paragraph (a) insert:
3			and
5 6	(2)	After	section 4.30(2) insert:
7 8 9		(3)	For the purposes of subsection (1)(c) an eligibility claim is successful if it is accepted under section 4.32, whether or not the acceptance is before the close of enrolments, as defined in section 4.39(1).
11 12 13 14		(4)	A person who is eligible under subsection (1) to vote at an election held less than 50 days after the commencement of the <i>Local Government Amendment Act 2009</i> section 13 is eligible to vote at that election.
16	14.	Secti	on 4.32 amended
17 18	(1)	In sec	etion 4.32(4) delete "Within" and insert:
19 20		Exce	pt as provided for in subsection (5A), within
21 22	(2)	After	subsection (4) insert:
23 24 25 26 27		(5A)	If a claim is made before the close of enrolments as defined in section 4.39(1), but less than 14 days before the close of nominations as defined in section 4.49(a), the CEO is to decide whether to accept or reject the claim before the close of nominations.

1	15.	Sect	ion 4.33	amended
2	(1)	Dele	te sectio	on 4.33(1a) and (2) and insert:
3 4 5 6 7 8 9		(2A)	eligibil occupa accept on the ordina	subsection (2B) or (3) applies, if an enrolment lity claim made by a person on the basis of ation of rateable property within the electorate is ed under section 4.32(4) or (8), the claim expires day 6 months after the holding of the second ry elections of the local government after the is accepted.
11 12 13		(2B)		nrolment eligibility claim on the basis of ation of rateable property within the electorate
14 15 16			(a)	made within the period of 49 days before the election day for ordinary elections of the local government; and
17 18			(b)	accepted under section 4.32(4) or (8) before the election day,
19 20 21			of the	im expires on the day 6 months after the holding third ordinary elections of the local government ne claim is accepted.
22 23 24 25 26		(2)	that we	e purpose of subsection (2A) or (2B), an election ould have been held on a particular day but for spension of the council of the local government is egarded as having been held on that day.
27 28	(2)	In se	ection 4.	33(3) delete "subclause (1a)" and insert:
29 30		subs	ection (2	2A) or (2B)

1	16.	Sect	ion 4.43 amended
2		In se	ection 4.43(3b) after "altered" insert:
4 5		unde	er this section or section 4.44A
6	17.	Sect	ion 4.44A inserted
7		Afte	r section 4.43 insert:
8 9		4.44A.	Alteration of rolls
10 11 12 13 14		(1)	The returning officer may alter the owners and occupiers roll by including the name of an elector whose enrolment eligibility claim was made under section 4.32(1) before the close of enrolments, as defined in section 4.39(1), but accepted after that time.
15 16 17 18 19		(2)	If the returning officer is not the CEO, the returning officer may direct the CEO to make an alteration to the roll described in subsection (1) and the CEO is to comply with that direction.
20	18.	Sect	ion 4.48 amended
21		Dele	ete section 4.48(2) and insert:
22 23 24 25 26 27 28		(2)	If the election is to fill the office of elector mayor or president, a person can only be a candidate if the person was an elector of the district who, as at the close of enrolments and at the time of nomination, was qualified under section 2.19 to be elected as a member of the council.
29			

1	19.	Section 4.59 amended	n 4.59	
2		In section 4.59:	ion 4.5	
3		(a) in paragraph (b) delete "candidates." and insert:	in par	:
5		candidates; and	candi	
7 8		(b) after paragraph (b) insert:	after]	
9		(c) the provision of information as to expenditure	(c)	iture
0		incurred in relation to an election by or for the		or the
1		benefit of candidates.		
2				

Part 5 — Amendments about administration

2	20.	Sect	ion 5.11A inserted
3		Afte	r section 5.10 insert:
4 5		5.11A.	Deputy committee members
6 7 8		(1)	The local government may appoint* a person to be a deputy of a member of a committee and may terminate such an appointment* at any time.
9			* Absolute majority required.
10 11		(2)	A person who is appointed as a deputy of a member of a committee is to be —
12 13			(a) if the member of the committee is a council member — a council member; or
14 15			(b) if the member of the committee is an employee — an employee; or
16 17 18			(c) if the member of the committee is not a council member or an employee — a person who is not a council member or an employee; or
19 20 21			(d) if the member of the committee is a person appointed under section 5.10(5) — a person nominated by the CEO.
22 23 24		(3)	A deputy of a member of a committee may perform the functions of the member when the member is unable to do so by reason of illness, absence or other cause.
25 26 27 28		(4)	A deputy of a member of a committee, while acting as a member, has all the functions of and all the protection given to a member.

1	21.	Section 5.36 amended
2	(1)	In section 5.36(4) delete "If" and insert:
4 5		Unless subsection (5A) applies, if
6 7	(2)	After section 5.36(4) insert:
8 9 10 11		(5A) Subsection (4) does not require a position to be advertised if it is proposed that the position be filled by a person in a prescribed class.
12	22.	Section 5.37 amended
13 14	(1)	In section 5.37(3) delete "If" and insert:
15 16		Unless subsection (4A) applies, if
17 18	(2)	After section 5.37(3) insert:
19 20 21 22		(4A) Subsection (3) does not require a position to be advertised if it is proposed that the position be filled by a person in a prescribed class.
23	23.	Section 5.43 amended
24		In section 5.43:
25 26		(a) after paragraph (g) insert:
27 28 29 30		(ha) the power under section 9.49A(4) to authorise a person to sign documents on behalf of the local government;
31		(b) after paragraph (h) delete "or".

1	24.	Section	on 5.4'	7 replac	ced		
2		Delete section 5.47 and insert:					
3							
4		5.47.	Super	annuat	tion regulations		
5			The G	overno	r may make regulations about any matter		
6					provision of superannuation by a local		
7			govern	nment.			
8							
9	25.	Section	on 5.48	8 amen	ded		
0		In sec	ction 5.	.48(1) d	elete the definition of employee and insert:		
1							
2			emplo	<i>yee</i> incl	ludes an employee of WALGA;		
3							
4	26.	Section	on 5.62	2 amen	ded		
5		In sec	ction 5	.62(1):			
6		(a)	after	paragr	aph (ea) insert:		
7							
8			(eb)		levant person is a council member and		
9					the relevant person was last elected the		
20				person	1—		
21				(i)	gave to the relevant person a gift that		
22					section 5.82 requires the relevant person		
23					to disclose; or		
24				(ii)	made a contribution to travel undertaken		
25					by the relevant person that section 5.83		
26					requires the relevant person to disclose;		
27				or			
28							
29		(b)	after	each o	f paragraphs (a) to (e) insert:		
80							
31			or				
32							

1	27.	Section 5.63 amended
2		In section 5.63(1)(b) delete "arising from" and insert:
4 5		in
6	28.	Section 5.78 amended
7 8		Delete section 5.78(2)(b) and insert:
9 0 1 2 3		(b) disclose the actual value, amount or extent of any asset, income, interest, debt or disposition referred to in section 5.79, 5.80, 5.81, 5.84, 5.85 or 5.86.
4	29.	Section 5.82 amended
5		In section 5.82(1) after "description" insert:
7		and the amount
9	30.	Section 5.83 amended
20 21		Delete section 5.83(1) and insert:
22		(1) A relevant person is to disclose in an annual return —
23 24 25 26		(a) the description and the amount of each financial or other contribution that has been made to any travel undertaken by the person at any time during the return period; and
27 28 29		(b) the name and address of the person who made each contribution to which paragraph (a) applies.

31.	Section 5.96 amended
	In section 5.96 delete "information and" and insert:
	information and, unless regulations prescribe otherwise,
32.	Part 5 Division 8 heading replaced
	Delete the heading to Part 5 Division 8 and insert:
	Division 8 — Local government payments and gifts to its members
33.	Section 5.98 amended
	After section 5.98(1) insert:
	(2A) A council member who attends a meeting of a prescribed type at the request of the council is entitled to be paid —
	(a) the prescribed minimum fee for attending a meeting of that type; or
	(b) where the local government has set a fee within the prescribed range for meetings of that type, that fee.
34.	Section 5.100A inserted
	After section 5.99A insert:
	5.100A. Gifts to council members
	A local government cannot give a gift to a council member unless —
	(a) the gift is given in prescribed circumstances; and
	32.

Part 5	Amendments	about	administration

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1		(b) the value of the gift is less than a prescribed
2		amount.
3		
4	35.	Section 5.101A inserted
5		After section 5.101 insert:
6		
7		5.101A. Regulations about payment of expenses
8		Regulations may be made about the method of
9		payment of an expense for which a person can be
10		reimbursed.
11		

Part 6 — Amendments about financial management

2	36.	Section 6.14	amen	ded
3		In section 6.	14(2):	
4		(a) delet	e parag	graphs (a) and (b);
5 6		(b) after	paragra	aph (c) insert:
7 8		and		
9	37.	Section 6.25	amen	ded
10 11		In section 6.2	25 inse	rt in alphabetical order:
12		owner		
13 14 15		(a)		ation to land in a retirement village as ed in the <i>Retirement Villages Act 1992</i>
16 17			(i)	the owner, as defined in that Act section 3(1); or
18 19			(ii)	a mortgagee in possession of the land; or
20 21 22 23			(iii)	a trustee, executor, administrator, attorney or agent of a person mentioned in this paragraph who is in possession of the land;
24 25		(b)	otherv	wise has the meaning given in section 1.4;

1	38.	Sect	ion 6. 2 9	replaced	
2		Dele	Delete section 6.29 and insert:		
3		6.29.	Value	tion and votes on mining and natural	
4 5		0.29.	intere	tion and rates on mining and petroleum sts	
6		(1)	In this	section —	
7			relevai	nt interest means —	
8 9 10 11			(a)	a mining tenement held under the <i>Mining</i> Act 1978 (whether within the meaning given to that term by that Act or by the <i>Mining</i> Act 1904); or	
12 13 14			(b)	a permit, drilling reservation, lease or licence held under the <i>Petroleum and Geothermal</i> <i>Energy Resources Act 1967</i> .	
15 16 17 18		(2)	section interes	dless of any determination made under a 6.28(1), the basis for a rate on a relevant t is to be the unimproved value of the land, as provided for in subsection (3).	
19 20 21		(3)		etion (2) does not apply to a relevant interest in a n of land on which capital improvements are	
22 23 24 25			(a)	the Minister has determined under section 6.28(1) that the gross rental value of the land is to be used as the basis for a rate on that interest; and	
26 27			(b)	the determination expressly excludes the application of subsection (2).	
28 29 30 31		(4)	that the the bas	inister cannot determine under section 6.28(1) e gross rental value of the land is to be used as sis for a rate on a relevant interest in a portion of another estate in that portion of land is rateable basis of the gross rental value of the land.	

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1 2 3		(5) For the purpose of subsection (3)(b) a determination is to be taken to expressly exclude the application of subsection (2) if the determination —		
4 5 6			(a)	was made before the commencement of the <i>Local Government Amendment Act 2009</i> section 38; and
7 8 9			(b)	specifically applies to the particular relevant interest.
10	39.	Section	on 6.33	amended
11	(1)	In sec	tion 6.	33(1):
12 13		(a)	in pa	ragraph (a) delete "zoned" and insert:
14 15			zone	d, whether or not
16 17		(b)	in pa	ragraph (b) delete "the predominant" and insert:
18 19			a	
20 21	(2)	After	section	a 6.33(4) insert:
22		(5)	A diffe	erential general rate that a local government
23				ted to impose under this Act before the <i>Local</i>
24				nment Amendment Act 2009 section 39(1)(a)
25 26				nto operation is to be taken to have been as valid e amendment made by that paragraph had been
27				pefore the purported imposition of that rate.
28				

1	40.	Sect	ion 6.68	8 amended
2		Dele	ete secti	on 6.68(2) and insert:
3				
4		(2)	A loca	al government is not required to attempt under
5			section	n 6.56 to recover money due to it before
6			exerci	sing the power of sale where the local
7			govern	nment —
8			(a)	has a reasonable belief that the cost of the
9			. ,	proceedings under that section will equal or
0				exceed the value of the land; or
1			(b)	having made reasonable efforts to locate the
2				owner of the property is unable to do so.
3		(3A)	A loca	al government is to ensure that a decision to
4		, ,		se a power of sale without having, within the
5			period	of 3 years prior to the exercise of the power of
6			sale, a	ttempted under section 6.56 to recover the
7			money	y due to it and the reasons for the decision are
8			record	led in the minutes of the meeting at which the
9			decisi	on was made.
00				

1		Part 7 — O	ther amendments
2	41.	Section 8.2 amended	
3 4 5	(1)	In section 8.2(1) delete and insert:	"local government" (first occurrence)
6 7 8		local government, employee	a member of a council, a CEO or an
9	(2)	Delete section 8.2(2) an	d insert:
1 2 3		(2) A person who fail subsection (1) cor	s to comply with a notice under nmits an offence.
4	42.	Section 9.16 amended	
5	(1)	After section 9.16(1) in	sert:
6 7 8 9 20 21 22 23 24 25		about an alleged of information in acc another person wh of the vehicle at the period of 28 days	given a notice under section 9.13 ffence involving a vehicle gives cordance with section 9.13(6) about no was the driver or person in charge ne time of the alleged offence, the for giving that other person an ever runs from the time the information
26 27	(2)	After section 9.16(2) ins	sert:
28 29 30 31 32		commencement o Act 2009 section 4 section is to be tal	notice given before the f the <i>Local Government Amendment</i> (2(1)) and purporting to be under this seen to have been as valid as if the by that subsection had been made was given.

32 33 34

1	43.	Sect	ions 9.49A and 9.49B inserted		
2		At th	At the beginning of Part 9 Division 3 insert:		
3 4		9.49A.	Execution of documents		
5 6		(1)	A document is duly executed by a local government if —		
7 8 9			(a) the common seal of the local government is affixed to it in accordance with subsections (2) and (3); or		
10 11 12			(b) it is signed on behalf of the local government by a person or persons authorised under subsection (4) to do so.		
13 14 15		(2)	The common seal of a local government is not to be affixed to any document except as authorised by the local government.		
16 17		(3)	The common seal of the local government is to be affixed to a document in the presence of —		
18			(a) the mayor or president; and		
19 20			(b) the chief executive officer or a senior employee authorised by the chief executive officer,		
21 22			each of whom is to sign the document to attest that the common seal was so affixed.		
23 24 25 26 27		(4)	A local government may, by resolution, authorise the chief executive officer, another employee or an agent of the local government to sign documents on behalf of the local government, either generally or subject to conditions or restrictions specified in the authorisation.		
28 29 30 31		(5)	A document executed by a person under an authority under subsection (4) is not to be regarded as a deed unless the person executes it as a deed and is permitted to do so by the authorisation.		

1 2 3		(6)	A document purporting to be executed in accordance with this section is to be presumed to be duly executed unless the contrary is shown.
4		(7)	When a document is produced bearing a seal
5		()	purporting to be the common seal of the local
6			government, it is to be presumed that the seal is the
7			common seal of the local government unless the
8			contrary is shown.
9		9.49B.	Contract formalities
10		(1)	Insofar as the formalities of making, varying or
11		()	discharging a contract are concerned, a person acting
12			under the authority of a local government may make,
13			vary or discharge a contract in the name of or on behalf
14			of the local government in the same manner as if that
15			contract was made, varied or discharged by a natural
16			person.
17		(2)	The making, variation or discharge of a contract in
18		()	accordance with subsection (1) is effectual in law and
19			binds the local government concerned and other parties
20			to the contract.
21		(3)	Subsection (1) does not prevent a local government
22		. ,	from making, varying or discharging a contract under
23			its common seal.
24			
25	44.	Vari	ious references to "Executive Director" amended
26		In th	e provisions listed in the Table delete "Executive Director"
27			h occurrence) and insert:
28		(3.00)	
29		Dena	artmental CEO
30		2 ° p	
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Table

s. 5.108(1), (2)(a) and (3)	s. 5.110(2)(b)
s. 5.111(1) and (2)	s. 5.112(1), (2), (3), (4) and (5)
s. 5.114(1) and (2)	s. 5.115(1) and (2)
s. 5.116(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6)	s. 5.117(4) and (5)
s. 5.118(2)	s. 5.119(1)
s. 9.69A	

45. Schedule 2.5 amended

In Schedule 2.5 clause 7(10) delete "procedure." and insert:

5 procedure, and other procedure and practice.

7 46. Schedule 3.1 amended

In Schedule 3.1 Division 1:

(a) after item 5A insert:

5B. Ensure that graffiti that is —

- (a) applied with the consent of the owner or occupier; and
- (b) visible from a public place; and
- (c) considered by the local government to be unsightly or offensive,

is obliterated in a manner acceptable to the local government.

(b) delete item 6 and insert:

6. Take specified measures for preventing or minimising the movement of sand, silt, clay or rocks on or from the land if, in

page 28

1 2 3				opinion of the local government, that movement would be ly to adversely affect other land.
4	47.		Sched	ule 3.2 amended
5			In Sch	edule 3.2:
6 7			(a)	in item 7 delete "(The cost cannot then be recovered from the owner.)";
8 9			(b)	after item 7 insert:
0 1 2		8.		iterate graffiti that is visible from a public place and that has a applied without the consent of the owner or occupier.

Part 8 — Consequential amendmen	Part 8 —	Conseq	uential	amend	men	ts
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2	48	Local Government	Amondmont	Act 2004	amended
/	40.	I III III (IIIVPI IIIIIPIII	AMENUMEN	ACI ///////4	интение

- 3 (1) This section amends the *Local Government Amendment Act 2004*.
- 5 (2) Delete section 19(2).
- 6 (3) Delete section 20.
- 7 (4) Delete section 38(3).

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