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**From:** Frank Wilkie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2019 1:18 PM  
**To:** Ministerial\_Corro@dlgrma.qld.gov.au  
**Subject:** Dear Minister Hinchcliffe. Submission for Belcarra reforms please

Dear Minister Hinchcliffe

I wish to make a submission for consideration as part of the Belcarra reforms please

I submit that section 175D of the LGA be changed to require councillors to declare a "perceived" conflict of interest when they are deciding a matter involving an association of which they are a general member.

#### Rationale

Councillors join associations because, like other general members, they share the aims and objectives of that organisation. Constitutions often contain clauses stating general members should always act in the best interest of the association.

Reasonable members of the public can, and do, therefore reasonably "perceive" that councillors would be experiencing a conflict between their obligations as a member of that group and their duties as a councillor when required to make a decision affecting that group.

Again, constitutions of associations often contain clauses requiring general members to always act in the best interests of the group. Councillors take an oath to always act in the best interests of the shire.

In the minds of the public, there is very often "perceived" to be a conflict of interest when a councillor has to decide on a matter involving an association they are known to be a general member of.

#### Proposed solution

The councillor should arguably at least declare the "perceived" conflict and allow their colleagues to determine if they should remain in the room for the debate/decision.

Please consider amending section 175D to give clearer guidance on this issue.

For your consideration

Best wishes

Frank Wilkie

**Cr Frank Wilkie**  
Deputy Mayor | Noosa Council

Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Website: [www.noosa.qld.gov.au](http://www.noosa.qld.gov.au)  
Location: Level 3, 9 Pelican Street, Tewantin  
Mail: PO Box 141 Tewantin Qld 4560

