



Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee

Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

Friday, 16 January 2026
9:30am – 12:10pm

Parliamentary Annexe, Brisbane

Committee Room 2, Level 3

Via teleconference / videoconference (as required)

Time	Witness	Submission
9:30am – 9:50am	Local Government Association of Queensland <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Alison Smith, Chief Executive Officer (via videoconference)• Ms Sarah Vogler, Head of Advocacy• Ms Kim Driver, Manager - Governance & Advisory Services	<u>34</u>
9:50am – 10:10am	Office of the Independent Assessor <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Charles Kohn, Acting Independent Assessor• Mr Nicholas Finn, Acting Deputy Independent Assessor• Mr Todd Saunders, Director, Media and Engagement	<u>19</u>
10:10am – 10:30am	Local Government Managers Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Peta Irvine, Chief Executive Officer	<u>7</u>
10:30am – 10:50am	Electoral Commission of Queensland <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Wade Lewis, Assistant Electoral Commissioner• Mr Matthew Thurlby, Director Funding, Disclosure & Compliance	<u>18</u>
10:50am – 11:10am	Mayor Teresa Harding, City of Ipswich	<u>51</u>

Time	Witness	Submission
11:10am – 11:30am	Mareeba Shire Council (via videoconference) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Angela Toppin AM • Mr Peter Franks, Chief Executive Officer 	<u>37</u>
11:30am – 11:50am	Maranoa Regional Council (via videoconference) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Johanne Hancock 	<u>44</u>
11:50am – 12:10pm	Balonne Shire Council (via videoconference) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Samantha O'Toole • Mrs Michelle Clarke, Chief Executive Officer 	<u>30</u>

Public Hearing:

This hearing will be broadcast live on [Parliament TV](#), and available for viewing afterwards from the Committee's Parliament.TV Archive. A transcript of the proceedings will also be published in due course.

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