

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

Submission No: 002

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As a councilor the amendments to the legislation do not give us any extra ability to perform our role for the betterment of our communities. The legislation is slanted to heavily in favour of a council's administration with councilors held at arms length. While councilors should not be allowed to direct staff they should be allowed to question and sit in on meetings so they are aware what is being conveyed to the public by employees.

If councilors are in charge of "strategy" they need to be able to be present to see if their strategy is being implemented or skewed in a manner that serves the employees by way of less time, less effort or their decided direction.

More access to records should be afforded to councilors as at present CEOs and Directors have an ability to provide only what they decide. The CCC does not do enough and requires councilors to gather evidence before they will investigate. their answer is always "provide the evidence" but councilors do not have the ability to gather the evidence.