

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

**Submission No:** 013

**Submission By:** Lockyer Valley Regional Council

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Lockyer Valley Regional Council supports the Local Government (Empowering Councils) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 and the objectives of the Bill to:

empower councils by:

providing that senior executive employees of a local government are appointed by a panel of the local government, rather than solely by the chief executive officer (CEO)

providing that Brisbane City Council appoints its senior contract employees, rather than the CEO

facilitating local government access to essential State-owned quarry materials, and

clarifying Indigenous local government rating powers and provide a framework to facilitate Indigenous local government rating in the future

empower mayors by:

reinforcing that the mayor is the official spokesperson of a local government, and

clarifying that the mayor is the default chairperson of ordinary and special meetings of a local government, and committees for which the mayor is the chairperson. This role includes managing the conduct of the participants at the meeting.

improve the councillor conflicts of interest and register of interests frameworks

reduce unnecessary red tape and regulation

provide certainty to councillors about matters relating to remuneration, leaves of absence, vacation of office, and eligibility

promote good governance and decision-making

enhance safeguards for local government election candidates and participants, and

make various minor, administrative and/or technical amendments.