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RECEIVED

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Law, Justice and Safety
Committee



Submission 117



Aidan McLindon MP

Member for Beaudesert

The Research Director
Law, Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

9 August 2010

Dear Research Director,

I write in response to the Law, Justice and Safety Committee's Review of the Local Government Electoral System.

Please find my responses to three of the questions below:

Question 6: Should the Electoral Commission of Queensland be responsible for the administration of the quadrennial local government elections or should this responsibility remain with Council CEOs?

The responsibility and conduct of local government elections should remain with the Council CEOs. Economically and practically this is the most efficient method for these elections to be conducted. Wherever possible councils should retain the ability to decide the conduct of elections locally.

Question 15: Should the new Act allow mayors to be appointed by their fellow councillors?

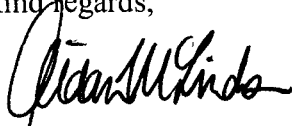
No. This would open the position of mayor to political influence, reducing the democratic right of local residents to elect the mayor. The position of mayor should remain an elected position therefore maintaining true and fair representation.

Question 34: Should people, based on the number of properties they own, be entitled to more than one vote per division?

Franchise votes would allow a person to vote, regardless of whether they reside in the local council. This would especially increase the power of developers to influence government policy, and further allowing developers and multiple property owners to have an unfair and non-democratic influence on local governments. Voting should remain one person, one vote.

I appreciate the opportunity for submission on this review and I wish the Committee all the best in their research and recommendations.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aidan McLindon', written in a cursive style.

Aidan McLindon MP
Member for Beaudesert