

From: Kevin Trent [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 25 November 2017 6:36 PM
To: Legislation
Subject: Submissions to the Review

Morning

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Amalgamation

While the current State Government has no plans to amalgamate Councils, voluntary amalgamation should not be prevented. A process needs to be laid out so that the simple steps can be followed to ensure all parties are included and positive benefits gained by both communities.

Gifts

All gifts over \$200 should be recorded in a register maintained by the CEO. The gifts should be \$200 per annum cumulative.

Declaration of Interest

A register needs to be maintained and this included in the Agenda for each Council meeting. Clarity of interest needs to be spelled out to allow Councillors and Officers to ensure that there is no excuse for ignorance of this aspect.

Training for Candidates

Candidates for Local Government should have access to on line training to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities as a Councillor. This would cover Council meetings and Briefings Gifts, Declarations of Interest, and then once elected knowledge of the requirement to undergo further training within a specified time.

Training of Councillors

This should be available on line, it is not possible for all to attend in person training, the Diploma of Local Government, provided by WALGA would be a good model.

Training for Mayors and Presidents

This should be explored. Sessions on Mediation and policy development should be included. Training should include handling vexatious members of the public at Council and consultative meetings.

Note these are my personal thoughts.

Cr Kevin Trent

Councillor Shire of York.