

Please amend the LG Act to:

- a) ensure full alignment of local government to the stated need of the world's nations to restore all our ecosystems to deliver carbon sinks as detailed in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021 to 2031); this to maintain our planet temperate for our own survival.
- b) enshrine in local government that "Bushforever "means a natural ecosystem to be heralded and protected and maintained as an asset for future generations, "in perpetuity, to be managed with the highest respect and forever set aside for Nature."
- c) outlaw in local government the advancement of capital projects that threaten ecosystems or ecosystem services, or destroy coastline, cliffs, seabeds, seagrasses, or Bushforever.
- d) outlaw by local government any projects that propose to clear or fragment or harm Bushforever or Regional Parks etc.
- e) prevent local governments using Confidentiality and/or confidential Planning Sessions to develop capital works programs away from public awareness as project cases for coastal or other natural areas incursions that WAPC may then approve based on cherry-picked intelligence provided.
- f) prevent the bypassing of democratic due process by ensuring that elected Councils can agree or disagree with any proposed development projects by dismantling the fundamentally flawed, developer-weighted JDAP.
- g) completely prevent the State's proponent (currently Development WA) or any other proponent advancing projects of any kind without peer-reviewed contractually inclusive, transparent and effective environmental monitoring and effective project trigger points. This to ensure that any final proponent entity could physically cease works when notified of degradation or harm their project actions cause to any ecosystem or any local community.
- h) to prevent both Ministerial and Department approvals that sanction, in any part, either 1) gateway clearing, that is, the clearing of an initial parcel of bushland that effectively provides a gate access to another perhaps larger bushland area that is yet to be approved for clearing, 2) harm or destroy any Aboriginal culture or heritage, 3) threaten, harm or destroy any ecosystem(s).
- i) to stop the politization, diminishment and silencing of DBCA, DWER and the EPA to enshrine them as the agencies the electorate want them to be, our well-funded, responsive, alert, independent environmental watchdogs; the guardians of our ecosystem services, to provide clear, unbiased scientific advice to our Ministers.
- j) ensure that any Ministerial interpretations of any advice provided under (h) above does not permit final decisions or actions that threaten Aboriginal heritage, Aboriginal culture or any ecosystem(s).
- k) ensure all local government chambers provide full access and facility and process, including at the speakers' podium used to address Council, for the audibly and/or visually impaired.
- l) ensure that any motion from the floor presented at an AGM for any local government is allowed reasonable time for any speakers to speak to the motion.
- m) cease the practice of the local government assigning any council member(s) to remunerated positions in regional councils without any single candidate's assessment being first made publicly available for comment to ensure transparency this to minimise the potential for any indebted factions on any council.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Harrison

