



Local Government Reform

Stronger local democracy

The State Government is introducing the most **significant reforms of local government** in 25 years.

These reforms will strengthen the transparency, accountability, and efficiency of local governments, enabling stronger local democracy while ensuring a better response to the needs of ratepayers and residents.

Some of these reforms will have a direct impact on voting in the October 2023 local government elections.

You will find details of the reforms on the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries website at www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/lg-act-reform or use this QR code.



Optional Preferential Voting (OPV)

Bringing local government elections in line with state and federal elections will result in making council more representative and responsive to ratepayers.



Direct election of Mayors and Presidents by residents in larger local governments

Strengthening local democracy by giving rate payers the choice to elect the council leader.



Changes to council representation

Council representation to be aligned to the population of the district and the removal of wards for smaller councils.

