

REFORM AREA 1

STRONGER COUNCIL MEMBER CAPACITY AND BETTER CONDUCT SUMMARY OF REFORM PROPOSALS

COUNCIL MEMBER CONDUCT

- 1.1** Clearly separate behavioural matters from integrity matters in the legislation.
- 1.2** Include standards of behaviour in the legislation, allowing councils to adopt more detailed 'examples of behaviour'.
- 1.3** Continue to give councils flexibility to deal with behavioural matters.
- 1.4** Provide principal members with enhanced powers to deal with disruptive behaviour at meetings.
- 1.5** Enable escalation of serious behavioural matters to an independent body that can suspend members (including suspension of an allowance).
- 1.6** Simplify the conflict of interest provisions by establishing 'material' and 'non-material' conflicts.
- 1.7** Simplify the process by which council members can be exempt from conflict of interest provisions, or seek approval to participate in a matter.
- 1.8** Clarify the application of conflict of interest rules to council committees and subsidiaries.

Establish a new conduct management framework through—

- 1.9** Model 1 - The clarification of current legislation
- Model 2 - Using governance committees
- Model 3 - Establishing a Local Government Conduct Commissioner.

COUNCIL MEMBER CAPACITY

- 1.10** Clarify the role of council members to recognise their responsibility to ensure good working relationships within the council, and to support the conduct management framework.
- 1.11** Clarify the role of council members to recognise their obligation to complete mandatory training.
- 1.12** Clearly state the role of the principal member as a leader of the council, particularly in ensuring good working relationships within the council.
- 1.13** Provide directly elected Mayors with a deliberative vote on motions before council.
- 1.14** Establish a mandatory training scheme within the regulations.
- 1.15** Establish a timeframe for the completion of mandatory training and a penalty for non-compliance.
- 1.16** Require councils to receive independent advice on CEO selection and remuneration.
- 1.17** Give responsibility for determining CEO remuneration to the Remuneration Tribunal of South Australia
- 1.18** Require councils to conduct annual performance reviews of CEOs, with independent oversight.
- 1.19** Require annual performance reviews to be completed before the extension of a CEO contract.
- 1.20** Require councils to receive independent advice before terminating a CEO contract.