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HON MARK BRINDAL, MP
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT
MINISTER FOR YOUTH
MINISTER ASSISTING FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

Message from the Minister

(To Elected Members and CEOs)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ELECTIONS) ACT 1999**

As you are aware, I introduced the Local Government Bills to replace the Local Government Act 1934 into Parliament in February this year. In the course of the Parliamentary debate a range of amendments were made and the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 were passed and subsequently assented to on 26 August 1999.

The Statutes Repeal and Amendment (Local Government) Bill 1999, which provides for essential repeal and transitional arrangements between the 1934 Act and the new legislation, was not passed in the Budget sitting. Until those provisions are passed in the next sitting of Parliament, the two Bills that were passed cannot be brought into force, and the necessary regulations under those Acts cannot be made. It is anticipated that the new legislation will come into force on 1 January 2000. This will ensure that the new legislation is in place, and the necessary changes implemented, before the Local Government general elections in May 2000.

The establishment of the new legislative framework for Local Government in South Australia has been the result of the considerable effort over a long period of time involving many people in the Local Government, State Government and community sectors. This collaborative effort now means that South Australia has a modern and flexible legislative framework to support effective and accountable local governance in the 21st century.

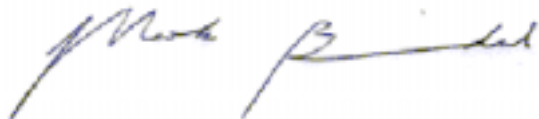
To assist the smooth transition to the new legislative framework, over the next few months a series of Circulars will be issued by the Office of Local Government. The Circulars will provide information about the legislative changes that will come into effect as a result of the new Local Government Acts.

Attached are the first three circulars in the “Local Government Acts – In Transition” series. These three circulars provide an overview of the amendments made to the Local Government Bills, which resulted in the new Local Government Acts. Other circulars will cover topics such as Councils’ reporting requirements under competition policy, future arrangements for the preservation of by-laws, land management, rating, and subsidiaries.

The Office of Local Government will also continue to work with the Local Government Association with the aim of providing assistance to Elected Members and practitioners during the transition phase of the new legislation.

I am most appreciative of the high level of participation and interest in the Local Government Act Review, and thank you once again for your contribution to the development of the new Local Government Acts.

I invite you to contact the Office of Local Government, telephone 8207 0600 if you would like any information, advice or assistance in relation to the new Local Government legislation.



HON MARK BRINDAL, MP

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6 September 1999