

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER
(To Elected Members and CEOs)

Variations to Local Government (General) Regulations 1999

On the 4 October 2001, miscellaneous variations to the *Local Government (General) Regulations 1999* were Gazetted, and came into operation on that day, in order to:

- address a range of issues raised by stakeholders;
- address issues that have arisen from the repeal of *Local Government Act 1934* provisions and reviews of preserved by-law making powers;
- correct errors; and
- clarify the application of the legislation.

An amendment has been made to regulation 13 so that rate instalment notices sent out after the period within which an objection to valuation can be lodged will not have to set out those objection rights.

Regulation 16 has been amended to clarify that only the basic specified information concerning leases and licences needs to be included in the public register of community land, and that the leased or licensed land may be identified by a plan.

A regulation has been made pursuant to s. 221(3)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*. It provides an exemption from the requirement to gain Council authorisation for an alteration to a road that involves installing aerial telecommunication connections for subscribers from the network cable system, via street poles, to buildings. These installations have not been covered by Commonwealth legislation since 1 July 2000 and are now subject to State legislation. As a consequence, there was a technical requirement to seek Council authorisation from that date, which has now been removed.

A regulation has also been made pursuant to s. 239(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 1999*. It creates an additional matter, namely camping, for which Councils are able to make by-laws about the use of roads. It is not intended that this power cover camp fires which are capable of being regulated under other legislation.

A regulation has been made to remove an anomaly between Schedule 5 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the provisions of Chapter 7 of the Act with respect to staff registers of interests. This regulation clarifies that registers accessible to the public do not include staff registers of interests.

Amendments have also been made to the register of interests forms to correct an error in reference to trusts.

If you wish to discuss any queries regarding the regulations, please contact Russell Starr of the Office of Local Government, telephone 8207 0609.



HON DOROTHY KOTZ MP
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

October 2001