



TASMANIA

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT
(TARGETED REFORM) ACT 2026**

No. 11 of 2026

CONTENTS

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Short title
2. Commencement

PART 2 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 AMENDED

3. Principal Act
4. Section 3 amended (Interpretation)
5. Section 16 amended (Municipal areas)
6. Section 17 amended (Electoral districts)
7. Section 18 amended (Establishment of councils)
8. Section 20 substituted
 - 19A. Role of council

20. Local government charter
9. Section 25 amended (Constitution of council)
10. Section 27A amended (Order relating to Mayor's functions)
11. Section 28AA amended (Order relating to functions of councillors)
12. Sections 28AB and 28AC inserted
 - 28AB. Mandatory core learning and development activities for councillors
 - 28AC. Policy for continuing professional development
13. Part 3, Division 3AAA inserted
 - Division 3AAA – Councillor allowances and numbers*
 - 28JAA. Allowances
 - 28JAB. Review of councillor allowances and numbers
 - 28JAC. Requests for reduction of councillor numbers
 - 28JAD. Order to amend Schedule 3
14. Section 28ZA amended (Initial assessment of code of conduct complaint)
15. Section 28ZBA inserted
 - 28ZBA. Referral of code of conduct complaint on initial assessment to Director
16. Sections 28ZHA and 28ZHB inserted
 - 28ZHA. Referral of code of conduct complaint to Director
 - 28ZHB. Referral of code of conduct complaint to other persons or authorities
17. Section 28ZK amended (Notification of determination of code of conduct complaint)
18. Part 3, Division 3B inserted
 - Division 3B – Serious councillor misconduct*
 - Subdivision 1 – Preliminary*
 - 28ZQ. Interpretation
 - 28ZR. Serious councillor misconduct
 - 28ZS. Ministerial guidelines in relation to serious councillor misconduct
 - Subdivision 2 – Assessment of serious councillor misconduct*
 - 28ZT. Assessment of serious councillor misconduct
 - 28ZU. Determination of Director following investigation of councillor conduct
 - 28ZV. Referral of complaints back to initial assessor or investigating Panel
 - Subdivision 3 – Tribunal*

- 28ZW. Application to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
- 28ZX. Orders of the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
- 19. Section 45 amended (Election of councillors)
- 20. Section 62 amended (Functions and powers of general manager)
- 21. Section 62A amended (Order relating to general manager's functions generally)
- 22. Section 62B amended (Order relating to general manager's function to liaise with mayor)
- 23. Section 66 amended (Strategic plan)
- 24. Section 70DA inserted
 - 70DA. Community engagement strategy
- 25. Section 70E amended (Review of plans, strategies and policies)
- 26. Section 70F amended (Orders determining minimum contents of plans, &c., and classes of assets)
- 27. Sections 84A and 84B inserted
 - 84A. Council performance reporting
 - 84B. Internal audit
- 28. Section 122A inserted
 - 122A. Order specifying information in rates notices
- 29. Section 214E amended (Result of review)
- 30. Section 214L amended (Recommendation for issuing performance improvement direction)
- 31. Section 214O amended (Consequences of failing to comply with performance improvement direction)
- 32. Part 12C inserted
 - PART 12C – Temporary Advisors
 - 214P. Recommendation to appoint temporary advisor
 - 214Q. Appointment of temporary advisor
 - 214R. Functions and powers of temporary advisors
 - 214S. Report by temporary advisor
 - 214T. Cost of temporary advisor
- 33. Section 291 substituted
 - 291. Assistance to electors
- 34. Section 296 substituted
 - Division 7 – Alternative voting*

- 296. Application of alternative voting provisions
- 35. Section 338AA amended (Director may require information, &c., for purposes of investigation)
- 36. Section 338A amended (Disclosure of information)
- 37. Section 338B inserted
 - 338B. Disclosure of information for code of conduct complaints
- 38. Section 339 amended (Improper use of information)
- 39. Section 339EA amended (Investigations of complaints and other matters)
- 40. Section 340A repealed
- 41. Section 341 amended (Immunity from liability)
- 42. Section 349D inserted
 - 349D. Transitional provisions consequent on *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026*
- 43. Schedule 3 substituted
 - SCHEDULE 3 – MUNICIPAL AREAS, COUNCILS AND ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**
- 44. Schedule 4 inserted
 - SCHEDULE 4 – METHODOLOGY FOR DETERMINING COUNCILLOR NUMBERS AND ALLOWANCES**
- 45. Schedule 8B inserted
 - SCHEDULE 8B – SAVINGS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS CONSEQUENT ON *LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (TARGETED REFORM) ACT 2026***

PART 3 – TASMANIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ACT 2020 AMENDED

- 46. Principal Act
- 47. Schedule 2 amended (General Division)

PART 4 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2025 AMENDED

- 48. Principal Regulations
- 49. Regulation 49 amended (Allowances for elected members)

50. Schedule 4 substituted
SCHEDULE 4 – ALLOWANCES FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

PART 5 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2025 AMENDED

51. Principal Regulations
52. Regulation 3 amended (Interpretation)
53. Regulation 31 amended (Voting procedure)
54. Regulation 45 substituted
- 45. Requirement to attend meetings in person
 - 45A. Participation in meetings by audio or audio visual link
 - 45B. Meeting conducted by audio link or audio visual link in exceptional circumstances
 - 45C. Limit on attendance by audio link or audio visual link

PART 6 – REPEAL OF ACT

55. Repeal of Act



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (TARGETED REFORM) ACT 2026

No. 11 of 2026

An Act to amend the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020*, the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* and the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*

[Royal Assent 21 August 2026]

Be it enacted by Her Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026*.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 2

Part 1 – Preliminary

2. Commencement

The provisions of this Act commence on a day or days to be proclaimed.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 3

**PART 2 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993
AMENDED**

3. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Local Government Act 1993** is referred to as the Principal Act.

4. Section 3 amended (Interpretation)

Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by inserting the following definition after the definition of *community*:

community engagement strategy, in relation to a council, means the community engagement strategy established for that council under section 70DA(1);

- (b) by omitting “mayor, deputy mayor and alderman” from the definition of *councillor* and substituting “mayor and deputy mayor”;

- (c) by omitting the definition of *general manager* and substituting the following definition:

general manager means the person appointed under section 61

*No. 95 of 1993

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 5

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

(however described) and, in Part 15, includes a person nominated under section 253A;

- (d) by inserting the following definition after the definition of *list of electors*:

local government charter means a local government charter issued by the Minister, and in force, under section 20;

- (e) by inserting the following definition after the definition of *scrutineer*:

serious councillor misconduct – see section 28ZR;

- (f) by inserting the following definition after the definition of *Tasmanian Electoral Commission*:

temporary advisor means a person appointed to be a temporary advisor to a council under section 214Q;

5. Section 16 amended (Municipal areas)

Section 16 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting from subsection (2) “Column 1” and substituting “column 2”;
- (b) by omitting from subsection (5AA) “column 1” and substituting “column 2”;

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 6

- (c) by omitting from subsection (5B) “Column 1” and substituting “column 2”;
- (d) by omitting from subsection (6) “column 1” and substituting “column 2”.

6. Section 17 amended (Electoral districts)

Section 17 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting from subsection (2) “column 4” and substituting “column 6”;
- (b) by omitting from subsection (3) “column 4 or 5” and substituting “column 6 or 7”.

7. Section 18 amended (Establishment of councils)

Section 18 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting from subsection (2) “column 2” and substituting “column 3”;
- (b) by omitting from subsection (4) “column 2” and substituting “column 3”.

8. Section 20 substituted

Section 20 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following sections are substituted:

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 8

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

19A. Role of council

- (1) The role of a council is to support and improve the wellbeing of the community by –
 - (a) harnessing and building on the unique strengths and capabilities of the community; and
 - (b) providing infrastructure and services that, to be effective, require local approaches; and
 - (c) representing and advocating for the specific needs and interests of the community in regional, state-wide and national decision-making; and
 - (d) promoting the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the community, including by planning for and adapting to climate change risks in the exercise of its functions.
- (2) In performing its role, a council may –
 - (a) perform any duties or functions or exercise any powers conferred on a council by or under this Act or any other Act; and
 - (b) perform any other functions that the council determines are

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 8

reasonably necessary to enable
the council to perform its role.

- (3) A council may do anything necessary or convenient to perform its role either within or outside its municipal area.
- (4) A council may transfer to a single authority or a joint authority –
 - (a) any of its assets and liabilities on any condition it determines; or
 - (b) any of its employees.
- (5) A council may –
 - (a) acquire, hold, dispose of and otherwise deal with property; and
 - (b) sue and be sued in its corporate name.

20. Local government charter

- (1) The Minister, by order, may issue a local government charter.
- (2) A charter issued under subsection (1) must be consistent with this Act and is to –
 - (a) provide clarity and guidance on the role of councils referred to in section 19A and support councils in performing that role; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 8

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (b) specify principles and practices to guide when and how councils may undertake functions that are not directly related to, or that extend beyond, performing that role; and
- (c) specify principles to be followed by councils in relation to –
 - (i) good governance; and
 - (ii) financial management; and
 - (iii) community engagement; and
 - (iv) collaboration and coordination with other councils on matters of shared interest or regional issues; and
- (d) specify principles and processes by which the Tasmanian Government will support councils to perform their role, including in connection with consultation and engagement between the Tasmanian Government and local government; and
- (e) contain such other matters as may be prescribed.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 8

-
- (3) A council is to have regard to any charter issued by the Minister under this section when performing its functions and exercising its powers.
- (4) The Minister is to ensure that any charter issued under this section is reviewed at least once in each 5-year period.
- (5) The Minister may amend, revoke, or revoke and substitute an order under this section.
- (6) Before making, amending or revoking and substituting an order, the Minister must consult with –
- (a) councils; and
 - (b) the Local Government Association of Tasmania; and
 - (c) the public –
- as to the matters that the Minister is considering including in the order, the amended order or the substitute order.
- (7) Section 47(3), (3A), (4), (5), (6) and (7) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1931* applies to an order under this section as if the order were regulations within the meaning of that Act.
- (8) An order under this section is subordinate legislation for the purposes of the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992*.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 9

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

(9) An order under this section may be combined with an order under one or more of the following sections:

- (a) section 27A;
- (b) section 28AA;
- (c) section 62A;
- (d) section 62B.

9. Section 25 amended (Constitution of council)

Section 25 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting subsection (2);
- (b) by omitting from subsection (3) “column 3” and substituting “column 5”;
- (c) by omitting subsection (4).

10. Section 27A amended (Order relating to Mayor’s functions)

Section 27A(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting before paragraph (a) the following paragraph:

- (aa) section 20;

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 11

11. Section 28AA amended (Order relating to functions of councillors)

Section 28AA(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting before paragraph (a) the following paragraph:

(aa) section 20;

12. Sections 28AB and 28AC inserted

After section 28AA of the Principal Act, the following sections are inserted in Division 3:

28AB. Mandatory core learning and development activities for councillors

(1) In this section –

immediately preceding term of office,
in relation to a councillor, means
the last term of office held by the
councillor that ended before the
commencement of the
councillor's current term of
office.

(2) The Director may approve one or more
courses of mandatory core learning and
development activities for councillors.

(3) Without limiting subsection (2), the
Director may approve different courses,
or different requirements, for –

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 12

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (a) councillors who have not served as a councillor in the immediately preceding term of office; and
 - (b) councillors who have served as a councillor in the immediately preceding term of office.
- (4) A course approved under this section is to consist of learning and development activities relating to the roles and responsibilities of councils and councillors.
- (5) The Director is to, within 28 days of approving a course under subsection (2) –
 - (a) ensure that notice of the approval is issued to each council; and
 - (b) cause a copy of the course of mandatory core learning and development activities to be published on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Department.
- (6) The regulations may prescribe requirements for the learning and development activities required under this section.
- (7) A councillor must, within 12 months after the councillor's election, complete any course of mandatory core learning

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 12

and development activities applicable to the councillor under this section.

- (8) The Director may extend the period referred to in subsection (7) if satisfied that it would be appropriate in the circumstances.
- (9) The Director may only approve a course under this section if the Director has consulted with the Local Government Association of Tasmania as to the suitability of the course for councillors.

28AC. Policy for continuing professional development

- (1) A council must adopt a policy in relation to the continuing professional development of councillors (a ***continuing professional development policy***) within 6 months after an ordinary election.
- (2) A continuing professional development policy for a council is to –
 - (a) be prepared by the general manager for the council; and
 - (b) relate to matters relevant to councillors' roles and responsibilities under this or any other Act; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 13

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (c) have regard to the professional development needs of councillors; and
- (d) include an estimate of the expenditure to be spent in a financial year by the council in implementing the policy.

13. Part 3, Division 3AAA inserted

After section 28J of the Principal Act, the following Division is inserted in Part 3:

Division 3AAA – Councillor allowances and numbers

28JAA. Allowances

- (1) A councillor is entitled to the allowance prescribed for the councillor's allowance band.
- (2) The allowance band for a councillor is the allowance band allocated to the council as specified in Schedule 3, as determined in accordance with Schedule 4.
- (3) A mayor and deputy mayor are entitled to any prescribed allowances in addition to any allowances referred to in subsection (1).
- (4) Allowances are to be paid in arrears.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 13

-
- (5) A councillor, mayor or deputy mayor may, by written notice to the general manager of the council, elect not to receive all or part of an allowance.
 - (6) A councillor who is suspended under this Act is not entitled to any allowance during the period of suspension.
 - (7) A person who is prohibited from performing the functions or exercising the powers of a councillor under section 339C is not entitled to any allowance during the period of the prohibition.

28JAB. Review of councillor allowances and numbers

- (1) The Minister must undertake a review of councillor numbers and councillor allowances for all councils within the period commencing 12 months before, and ending 6 months before, the date of an ordinary election.
- (2) In conducting a review under this section, the Minister must, in accordance with Schedule 4, determine –
 - (a) the aggregate score for each council; and
 - (b) the councillor number category for each council; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 13

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

(c) the allowance band for each council.

(3) The Minister may recommend that the Governor amend Schedule 3 by order under section 28JAD to reflect –

(a) the councillor number category and councillor numbers; and

(b) the allowance band –

determined in accordance with Schedule 4.

28JAC. Requests for reduction of councillor numbers

(1) A council that is in councillor number category 3 in column 4 of Schedule 3 may apply to the Minister for approval to reduce the number of councillors to be elected for the council to 5.

(2) An application under subsection (1) must –

(a) be in writing, and

(b) include evidence that the council has resolved, by absolute majority at an ordinary meeting of the council, to apply to reduce the number of councillors; and

(c) be made no later than 6 months before the day on which notice of

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 13

the next ordinary election is given.

- (3) If the Minister approves an application under subsection (1), the Minister is to recommend to the Governor that Schedule 3 be amended accordingly under section 28JAD.
- (4) A council for which an order is made under section 28JAD has 5 councillors from the next ordinary election following the making of the order and continues to have 5 councillors unless –
 - (a) the council's councillor number category is no longer category 3 as a result of a review under section 28JAB; or
 - (b) the council applies to increase the number of councillors to 7.
- (5) An application under subsection (4)(b) must –
 - (a) be in writing; and
 - (b) be made at least 8 years after the order under subsection (3) was made; and
 - (c) be made no later than 12 months before the day on which notice of the next ordinary election is given; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 13

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (d) include evidence that the council has resolved, by absolute majority at an ordinary meeting of the council, to apply to increase the number of councillors.

28JAD. Order to amend Schedule 3

- (1) The Governor, by order and on the recommendation of the Minister, may amend Schedule 3 by omitting, inserting or substituting one or more numbers specified in column 4, column 5 or column 8 of that Schedule.
- (2) A recommendation under subsection (1) may be made as a result of –
 - (a) a review under section 28JAB; or
 - (b) an approval under section 28JAC.
- (3) An order under subsection (1) may contain provisions of a savings or transitional nature.
- (4) An order made under subsection (1) has effect despite any provision of this Act.
- (5) An amendment to Schedule 3 applies in relation to the next ordinary election of the relevant council following the making of the order and has effect from the issue of the certificates of election for

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 14

that election, unless otherwise provided
in the order.

**14. Section 28ZA amended (Initial assessment of code
of conduct complaint)**

Section 28ZA of the Principal Act is amended as
follows:

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(f)
“Panel.” and substituting “Panel;”;
- (b) by inserting the following paragraphs
after paragraph (f) in subsection (1):
 - (g) refer the whole complaint to the
Director under section 28ZBA;
 - (h) refer part of the complaint to the
Director under section 28ZBA.
- (c) by omitting from subsection (3)(b)(iii)
“Officer.” and substituting “Officer;
and”;
- (d) by inserting the following paragraph after
paragraph (b) in subsection (3):
 - (c) if the initial assessor has referred
the whole or part of the complaint
to the Director, is to –
 - (i) notify the councillor
against whom the
complaint is made, in
writing, of the result of

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 15

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

the initial assessment and
the reasons for it; and

(ii) provide a copy of the
complaint to that
councillor; and

(iii) provide the Director with
a copy of the initial
assessment of the
complaint and all
documentation and other
evidence on which the
initial assessment was
based.

15. Section 28ZBA inserted

After section 28ZB of the Principal Act, the
following section is inserted in Subdivision 3:

**28ZBA. Referral of code of conduct complaint on
initial assessment to Director**

The initial assessor for a code of conduct
complaint, on an initial assessment, may
refer a code of conduct complaint, or part
of it, to the Director if the initial assessor
reasonably considers that the complaint
includes conduct that is capable of
amounting to serious councillor
misconduct.

16. Sections 28ZHA and 28ZHB inserted

After section 28ZH of the Principal Act, the following sections are inserted in Subdivision 3:

28ZHA. Referral of code of conduct complaint to Director

The investigating Panel for a code of conduct complaint may, at any time, refer a code of conduct complaint, or part of it, to the Director if the investigating Panel reasonably considers that the complaint includes conduct that is capable of amounting to serious councillor misconduct.

28ZHB. Referral of code of conduct complaint to other persons or authorities

- (1) The investigating Panel for a code of conduct complaint may, at any time during the investigation of the complaint, refer the complaint, or part of the complaint, to a person or other authority that the investigating Panel considers appropriate if the investigating Panel reasonably considers that –
 - (a) the complaint discloses that an offence may have been committed; or
 - (b) the complaint would be more appropriately dealt with by that person or authority.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 17

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (2) A person or other authority to whom a code of conduct complaint is referred under subsection (1) –
 - (a) may accept or refuse the referral; and
 - (b) must notify the investigating Panel for the code of conduct complaint of that acceptance or refusal within 28 days after receiving the referral.
- (3) If the person or other authority to whom the code of conduct complaint is referred does not notify the investigating Panel as required by subsection (2)(b), the person or authority is taken to have accepted the referral.
- (4) If the person or other authority accepts the referral, the complaint, or the part of the complaint referred, ceases to be a code of conduct complaint.
- (5) If the person or other authority refuses the referral, the investigating Panel for the code of conduct complaint may continue its investigation of the complaint or part of the complaint.

17. Section 28ZK amended (Notification of determination of code of conduct complaint)

Section 28ZK of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 17

-
- (a) by omitting subsections (6) and (7);
 - (b) by omitting subsection (9);
 - (c) by inserting in subsection (10)(a)(ii) “, the Director” after “Officer”;
 - (d) by omitting from subsection (10)(b) “paragraph (a)(ii); and” and substituting “paragraph (a)(ii).”;
 - (e) by omitting paragraph (c) from subsection (10);
 - (f) by omitting subsection (11) and substituting the following subsection:
 - (11) Subsection (10) does not apply to the disclosure of a document, report or information if at the time of the disclosure –
 - (a) the initial assessor has dismissed the code of conduct complaint to which the document, report or information relates; or
 - (b) the determination report relating to the document, report or information, has been provided to persons as required under subsection (2).

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 18

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

18. Part 3, Division 3B inserted

After section 28ZP of the Principal Act, the following Division is inserted in Part 3:

Division 3B – Serious councillor misconduct
Subdivision 1 – Preliminary

28ZQ. Interpretation

In this Division –

code of conduct referral means the referral of a code of conduct complaint from –

- (a) an initial assessor to the Director under section 28ZBA; or
- (b) an investigating Panel to the Director under section 28ZHA;

decision-maker includes the following persons:

- (a) an initial assessor;
- (b) an investigating Panel;
- (c) the Director;
- (d) the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

28ZR. Serious councillor misconduct

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, ***serious councillor misconduct*** means conduct, or an attempt to engage in conduct, by a councillor that is or involves a serious or significant contravention of the code of conduct.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a decision-maker is to have regard to the following when determining whether conduct, or an attempt to engage in conduct, by a councillor constitutes a serious or significant contravention of the code of conduct:
 - (a) whether the conduct is unlawful;
 - (b) the extent of any actual or potential harm or risk, caused as a consequence of the conduct, to an individual, the council or public safety;
 - (c) the degree to which the conduct impacts negatively on the ability of the relevant council to perform its functions under this or any other Act;
 - (d) whether the conduct involves –
 - (i) deliberate and intentional misuse of council resources, information, or

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 18

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

authority, for personal
gain; or

(ii) undue influence on, or
detriment to, the council,
community or a
community member;

(e) the nature and extent of any
material benefit or detriment
derived by the councillor or
others as a result of the conduct;

(f) whether the conduct is part of a
repeated pattern of contraventions
or involves collusion with others,
and the councillor's role in such
collusion;

(g) such other public interest
considerations that the relevant
decision-maker considers
relevant.

**28ZS. Ministerial guidelines in relation to serious
councillor misconduct**

(1) The Minister, by order, is to issue
guidelines consistent with this Act to
assist decision-makers in determining
whether conduct, or an attempt to engage
in conduct, by a councillor constitutes a
serious or significant contravention of the
code of conduct.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 18

-
- (2) A decision-maker may have regard to any guidelines issued by the Minister under this section.
 - (3) The Minister, by order, may amend, revoke, or revoke and substitute any guidelines made under this section.
 - (4) Before making, amending or revoking and substituting an order, the Minister must consult with –
 - (a) councils; and
 - (b) the public –

as to the matters that the Minister is considering including in the order, the amended order or the substitute order.

Subdivision 2 – Assessment of serious councillor misconduct

28ZT. Assessment of serious councillor misconduct

- (1) If the Director receives a code of conduct referral from an initial assessor or an investigating Panel in respect of the conduct of a councillor, the Director must carry out an assessment of that conduct to determine whether to conduct an investigation.
- (2) After carrying out an assessment, the Director may –

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 18

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (a) if the Director determines that the conduct of the councillor is capable of amounting to serious councillor misconduct, determine that the Director will conduct an investigation into that conduct; or
 - (b) if the Director determines that the conduct is not capable of amounting to serious councillor misconduct, refuse to conduct an investigation into the conduct; or
 - (c) refer the complaint to another person or authority if the Director considers that the complaint would be more appropriately dealt with by that other person or authority.
- (3) If the Director makes a determination under subsection (2)(a) –
 - (a) the complaint is taken to be a complaint made to the Director under section 339E and ceases to be a code of conduct complaint; and
 - (b) the Director is to proceed under that section and section 339EA in relation to the complaint.
- (4) If the Director refuses under subsection (2)(b) to commence an investigation into a councillor's conduct, the Director must refer the matter back to the initial

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 18

assessor or the investigating Panel for the code of conduct complaint.

- (5) If the Director does not make a decision under subsection (2) within 28 days of receiving a code of conduct referral, the Director is to notify the initial assessor or the investigating Panel and the complainant that the matter is still under consideration.

28ZU. Determination of Director following investigation of councillor conduct

- (1) After completing an investigation into a councillor's conduct following a code of conduct referral, the Director may do any of the following:
- (a) make an application to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal under section 28ZW;
 - (b) refer the matter back to the initial assessor or the investigating Panel that made the initial referral;
 - (c) refer the matter to any other person or authority;
 - (d) dismiss the complaint.
- (2) A complaint that has been referred back to an initial assessor or an investigating

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 18

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

Panel under subsection (1)(b) is taken to be a code of conduct complaint and ceases to be a complaint to the Director under section 339E.

28ZV. Referral of complaints back to initial assessor or investigating Panel

- (1) If a complaint is referred back to an initial assessor or an investigating Panel under section 28ZT or 28ZU –
 - (a) the Director must provide reasons to the initial assessor or investigating Panel for the referral; and
 - (b) if the complaint is referred back to an initial assessor, the initial assessor is to proceed under section 28ZA in relation to that complaint within 14 days after the referral of the matter; and
 - (c) if the complaint is referred back to an investigating Panel, the investigating Panel is to proceed with the investigation and determination of the complaint.
- (2) On doing a further initial assessment under section 28ZA as required by subsection (1)(b) –

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 18

-
- (a) the initial assessor is to comply with section 28ZA as if doing a first initial assessment; and
 - (b) if the initial assessor determined on the original initial assessment to investigate a part of the code of conduct complaint and had notified the councillor against whom the complaint was made of that determination, the initial assessor is to notify the councillor of the result of the further initial assessment in addition to any other notice that the initial assessor is required to provide under section 28ZA.
- (3) If a complaint is referred back to an investigating Panel under section 28ZT or 28ZU, the investigating Panel is to notify the complainant and the councillor against whom the complaint is made of the referral back to the Panel as soon as practicable.
- (4) On resuming or continuing an investigation under subsection (1)(c), the investigating Panel may give any directions it considers necessary for the fair and efficient investigation and determination of the complaint.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 18

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

Subdivision 3 – Tribunal

28ZW. Application to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

- (1) If, following an investigation under section 339EA, the Director considers that the conduct of a councillor amounts to serious councillor misconduct, the Director may make an application to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal for a decision in relation to the matter.
- (2) An application –
 - (a) is to be made in writing; and
 - (b) is to specify the particulars upon which the application is based; and
 - (c) is to specify the orders sought and the grounds for seeking those orders; and
 - (d) is to be lodged with the Registrar, within the meaning of the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020*.
- (3) The Director must, as soon as reasonably practicable after making an application under this section in respect of the

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 18

conduct of a councillor, give a copy of that application to the councillor.

- (4) Unless otherwise specified in this Act, the provisions of the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020* apply in relation to an application made to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal under this section.
- (5) At the hearing of an application under this Subdivision, a party to the application may be represented by an Australian legal practitioner.

28ZX. Orders of the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

- (1) If, after hearing an application under this Division in respect of a councillor, the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal determines that a councillor has engaged in serious councillor misconduct, the Tribunal may make a finding of serious misconduct against the councillor and may make any one or more of the following orders:
 - (a) cautioning or reprimanding the councillor;
 - (b) requiring the councillor to apologise to the complainant or other person affected by the contravention of the code of

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 18

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- conduct, in the manner and form specified by the Tribunal;
 - (c) requiring the councillor to participate in counselling or undertake a training course;
 - (d) prohibiting the councillor from nominating as a candidate at any ordinary election or by-election for a period not exceeding 4 years;
 - (e) dismissing the councillor from office;
 - (f) suspending the councillor from office for a period of not less than 3 months but not more than 6 months;
 - (g) imposing on the councillor a fine not exceeding an amount equivalent to 50 penalty units.
- (2) If the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal makes a finding of serious misconduct against a councillor, it may make an order that all or any of the costs of proceedings be paid by the councillor and in making such an order must take into account the nature and severity of the misconduct.
- (3) If, after hearing an application under this Division in respect of a councillor, the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 18

Tribunal determines that the councillor has not engaged in serious councillor misconduct but has contravened the code of conduct, the Tribunal may make a finding of misconduct against the councillor and may make any one or more of the following orders:

- (a) cautioning or reprimanding the councillor;
 - (b) requiring the councillor to apologise to the complainant or other person affected by the contravention of the code of conduct, in the manner and form specified by the Tribunal;
 - (c) requiring the councillor to attend counselling or a training course;
 - (d) suspending the councillor from office for a period not exceeding 3 months.
- (4) If the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal makes a finding against a councillor under subsection (3), the Tribunal may decline to make an order under that subsection if satisfied that it is not reasonable in the circumstances to make such an order.
- (5) A person who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes an order made under subsection (1) or (3) is guilty of an offence.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 19

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

- (6) For the avoidance of doubt, the making of an order by the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal under this section is within the original jurisdiction of the Tribunal.

19. Section 45 amended (Election of councillors)

Section 45 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting from subsection (3) “column 5” and substituting “column 7”;
- (b) by omitting from subsection (4) “column 5” and substituting “column 7”.

20. Section 62 amended (Functions and powers of general manager)

Section 62(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (h) the following paragraph:

- (ha) to develop and maintain a workforce development plan that addresses the immediate and long-term human resourcing requirements of the council;

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 21

21. Section 62A amended (Order relating to general manager's functions generally)

Section 62A(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting before paragraph (a) the following paragraph:

(aa) section 20;

22. Section 62B amended (Order relating to general manager's function to liaise with mayor)

Section 62B(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting before paragraph (a) the following paragraph:

(aa) section 20;

23. Section 66 amended (Strategic plan)

Section 66 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsections:

(2A) A strategic plan for a municipal area is to identify community wellbeing priorities and specify strategies for achieving outcomes in relation to those priorities.

(3) In preparing a proposed strategic plan, a council is to –

(a) consult with the community in its municipal area and any authorities and bodies it considers appropriate; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 24

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

(b) have regard to the local government charter, if any.

(3A) A council is to undertake any consultation under subsection (3)(a) in accordance with the council's community engagement strategy.

24. Section 70DA inserted

After section 70D of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Division 2:

70DA. Community engagement strategy

- (1) A council must establish and implement a strategy for engagement with the community when developing the council's plans, policies and programs and for the purpose of determining its major activities.
- (2) A council is to consult with the community and any authorities and bodies it considers appropriate when preparing a proposed community engagement strategy or reviewing an established community engagement strategy.
- (3) A community engagement strategy is to contain –
 - (a) strategies to ensure that the community is informed about, and has reasonable opportunity to

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 25

contribute to, the decisions, activities and services of the council; and

(b) principles and procedures that the council will follow when engaging and consulting with the community; and

(c) such other matters as may be prescribed.

25. Section 70E amended (Review of plans, strategies and policies)

Section 70E(1) of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by omitting from paragraph (f) “policy.” and substituting “policy; and”;

(b) by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (f):

(g) community engagement strategy.

26. Section 70F amended (Orders determining minimum contents of plans, &c., and classes of assets)

Section 70F of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by omitting from subsection (1)(e) “policy.” and substituting “policy; or”;

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 27

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

(b) by inserting the following paragraphs after paragraph (e) in subsection (1):

(f) a community engagement strategy; or

(g) a continuing professional development policy; or

(h) a workforce development plan.

(c) by inserting the following subsection after subsection (2):

(2A) In an order under subsection (1), the Minister may also specify requirements in relation to the preparation, development, consultation, review, contents and publication of all or any of the plans, strategies or policies referred to in that subsection.

27. Sections 84A and 84B inserted

After section 84 of the Principal Act, the following sections are inserted in Division 3:

84A. Council performance reporting

(1) The Minister, by order, may specify performance reporting requirements that are to apply in relation to councils.

(2) In an order under subsection (1), the Minister may specify –

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 27

-
- (a) the frequency and manner of performance reporting by councils to the Minister; and
 - (b) the scope and types of performance indicators and metrics that are to be used; and
 - (c) the methodologies and protocols for the measurement, reporting and presentation of performance data.
- (3) A council must comply with any performance reporting requirements specified in an order under this section.
 - (4) The Minister is to consult with councils as to the matters to be included in an order under this section.

84B. Internal audit

- (1) The Minister, by order, may specify requirements that are to apply to councils in relation to the conduct of internal audits.
- (2) The Minister is to consult with councils as to the matters to be included in an order under this section.
- (3) A council must conduct any internal audits in accordance with the requirements specified in an order under this section.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 28

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

28. Section 122A inserted

After section 122 of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Division 9:

122A. Order specifying information in rates notices

- (1) The Minister, by order, may specify the information that, in addition to the information required under section 122(1), is to be included by the general manager in a rates notice.
- (2) The Minister is to consult with councils as to the matters to be included in an order under this section.

29. Section 214E amended (Result of review)

Section 214E(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (m) the following paragraph:

- (ma) adjust or determine, in relation to a municipal area, the methodology to be applied under Schedule 4 for the purposes of determining the number of councillors or allowances;

30. Section 214L amended (Recommendation for issuing performance improvement direction)

Section 214L of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 31

- (2) Without limiting the situations in which the Director may make a recommendation under subsection (1), the Director may make a recommendation under that subsection if, in the Director's opinion, the council or councillor has failed to comply with a statutory requirement under this or any other Act or under subordinate legislation made under this or any other Act.

31. Section 214O amended (Consequences of failing to comply with performance improvement direction)

Section 214O(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (a) the following paragraph:

- (ab) appoint a temporary advisor to the council under section 214Q for such period as the Minister determines;

32. Part 12C inserted

After section 214O of the Principal Act, the following Part is inserted:

PART 12C – TEMPORARY ADVISORS

214P. Recommendation to appoint temporary advisor

- (1) The Director may recommend to the Minister that a temporary advisor be appointed to a council to assist in

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 32

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

addressing emerging governance or operational issues at the council.

- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Director may make a recommendation under that subsection if –
 - (a) in the Director’s opinion there is evidence that suggests emerging governance or operational deficiencies at the council that, if not addressed, may negatively affect the effective delivery of the council’s functions and services to the community; or
 - (b) the council has requested the appointment of a temporary advisor.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(a), evidence of emerging governance or operational deficiencies may include, but is not limited to –
 - (a) ongoing or unresolved conflicts among councillors or between councillors and council employees that disrupt effective decision-making; and
 - (b) governance practices that risk undermining transparency, accountability or compliance with the principles of sound and prudent management necessary to

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 32

-
- deliver the council's functions;
and
 - (c) financial management practices that indicate potential risks to the council's financial sustainability;
and
 - (d) credible complaints, reports or other information that suggests systemic operational challenges.
- (4) A recommendation under subsection (1) must include –
- (a) the grounds for the recommendation; and
 - (b) a summary of the evidence or observations, such as complaints, reports, or patterns of conduct, on which the recommendation is based.

214Q. Appointment of temporary advisor

- (1) Before appointing a temporary advisor, the Minister must –
- (a) give written notice to the council that the appointment of a temporary advisor is proposed;
and
 - (b) set out in the notice the grounds for the proposed appointment,

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 32

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

including a summary of the matters relied upon; and

- (c) invite the council to make written submissions to the Minister in relation to the proposed appointment; and
 - (d) allow the council a period of not less than 14 days after the notice is given to make those submissions.
- (2) The Minister must consider any written submissions made by the council within the period referred to in subsection (1)(d) before deciding whether to appoint a temporary advisor.
- (3) The Minister may, after complying with subsections (1) and (2), appoint a temporary advisor to a council on such terms and conditions as the Minister determines.

214R. Functions and powers of temporary advisors

- (1) A temporary advisor has the following functions in respect of a council:
- (a) to monitor the council's governance processes and matters;

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 32

-
- (b) to advise the council about governance improvements that the council should make;
 - (c) to provide general assistance and advice to the council on good governance practices;
 - (d) such functions as are specified in the temporary advisor's instrument of appointment;
 - (e) such other functions as may be conferred on the temporary advisor under this Act or any other Act.
 - (2) A temporary advisor has the power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done in connection with, or incidental to, the performance of the functions of a temporary advisor.
 - (3) For the purposes of this Act and without limiting subsection (2), a temporary advisor may –
 - (a) enter and remain on council premises to perform any function or exercise any power under this Act; and
 - (b) attend meetings of a council or council committee, including meetings that are closed to the public; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 32

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (c) require records and documents relating to the council's governance processes and matters to be provided to the temporary advisor.
- (4) If a temporary advisor is appointed to a council, the council, councillors and employees of the council are required to co-operate with the temporary advisor and to provide any information or assistance that the temporary advisor reasonably requires to perform or exercise the temporary advisor's functions or powers.
- (5) A person must not obstruct or hinder a temporary advisor in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function under this Act.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

214S. Report by temporary advisor

- (1) A temporary advisor is to submit a final report to the Minister by the day specified in the temporary advisor's appointment.
- (2) The final report is to include the following:

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 32

-
- (a) any findings made by the temporary advisor in respect of the council;
 - (b) details of any action that the temporary advisor recommends be taken, and the reasons for that action;
 - (c) if the temporary advisor does not recommend that any action be taken, the reasons for that recommendation.
- (3) Within 5 sitting-days after receiving a final report under subsection (1), the Minister is to lay before each House of Parliament –
- (a) a copy of the final report; or
 - (b) a statement that the final report has been received by the Minister, if the Minister is satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that the tabling of the report may –
 - (i) disadvantage or cause damage to a council, whether directly or indirectly; or
 - (ii) constitute a breach of confidentiality; or

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 33

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (iii) disclose information relating to the personal affairs of any person; or
- (iv) prejudice an investigation into the council or a person specified in the report.

214T. Cost of temporary advisor

The Minister may require a council to pay any costs associated with the appointment of, and the performance of functions by, a temporary advisor under this Part.

33. Section 291 substituted

Section 291 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section is substituted:

291. Assistance to electors

- (1) The Electoral Commissioner may approve any procedures that are reasonable and appropriate to assist an elector who is unable to vote without assistance.
- (2) If an elector is to be assisted in voting in an election, an electoral officer for that election is to advise any scrutineers for that election of the approved procedure by which the elector will be voting.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 34

- (3) Without limiting subsection (1), the procedures may include voting in accordance with Division 7.

34. Section 296 substituted

Section 296 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following Division is substituted:

Division 7 – Alternative voting

296. Application of alternative voting provisions

- (1) Subject to this Act, Divisions 9A and 10 of Part 5 of the *Electoral Act 2004* apply in relation to an election under this Act as if –
- (a) a reference in those Divisions to an election were a reference to an election under Part 15 of this Act; and
 - (b) a reference in those Divisions to an elector were a reference to an elector under Part 15 of this Act; and
 - (c) a reference in those Divisions to the *Electoral Act 2004* were a reference to this Act; and
 - (d) such other changes are made as the context requires.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 35

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (2) The regulations may prescribe further modifications of, or exclude the operation of, any of the provisions of Divisions 9A or 10 of Part 5 of the *Electoral Act 2004* for the purposes of the application of those Divisions under this section.

35. Section 338AA amended (Director may require information, &c., for purposes of investigation)

Section 338AA(1) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting “carrying out an assessment under section 28ZT or” after “purposes of”.

36. Section 338A amended (Disclosure of information)

Section 338A of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by inserting the following subsections after subsection (1):
- (1A) Except as required or permitted by this Act, another Act or any other law, a councillor who attends a meeting of a council or council committee that is closed to the public through the use of electronic means of communication must take reasonable steps to ensure that no other person is able to hear or view the meeting or otherwise

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 36

access the discussions of the meeting.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

(1B) Subsection (1A) does not apply if a majority of councillors present at the meeting agree that the other person may attend, hear or view the meeting.

(1C) For the purposes of subsection (1A), reasonable steps by a councillor include, but are not limited to, the councillor –

(a) attending the meeting –

(i) from a private and secure location where other persons cannot overhear or observe the meeting or otherwise access the meeting discussion; and

(ii) through the use of prescribed secure communication technology and prescribed secure audio technology, if any; and

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 36

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (iii) in accordance with any prescribed requirements or procedures; and
 - (b) ensuring that no audio or audiovisual recording of the meeting, or any part of it, is made and that no transcript of the meeting is produced from any such recording.
- (1D) Subsection (1) applies to a person who is permitted to attend, hear or view a meeting or part of a meeting of a council or council committee that is closed to the public as if the person were a councillor.
- (b) by inserting in subsection (2) “or (1A)” after “subsection (1)”;
- (c) by inserting the following subsection after subsection (4):
 - (5) Except as required, or allowed, by this Act, another Act or any other law, a temporary advisor must not disclose information acquired in that capacity on the condition that it be kept confidential.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 50
penalty units.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 37

37. Section 338B inserted

After section 338A of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Division 3:

338B. Disclosure of information for code of conduct complaints

- (1) Despite any other provision of this Act or any other Act, a person who attends a meeting, or part of a meeting, of a council or a council committee that is closed to members of the public may disclose information obtained at the meeting or part of the meeting if the disclosure is made for the purpose of –
 - (a) making a code of conduct complaint; or
 - (b) assisting in the consideration, investigation or determination of a code of conduct complaint.
- (2) A disclosure made in accordance with subsection (1) does not constitute a breach of any obligation of confidentiality arising from the meeting or part of the meeting.

38. Section 339 amended (Improper use of information)

Section 339(2A) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting “or any investigation by the Director under this Act” after “investigation”.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 39

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

39. Section 339EA amended (Investigations of complaints and other matters)

Section 339EA(4) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting “the carrying out of an assessment under section 28ZT,” after “from”.

40. Section 340A repealed

Section 340A of the Principal Act is repealed.

41. Section 341 amended (Immunity from liability)

Section 341 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (d) in subsection (1):

(da) a temporary advisor; or

(b) by inserting in subsection (3) “a temporary advisor,” after “Panel,”.

42. Section 349D inserted

After section 349C of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Division 3:

349D. Transitional provisions consequent on *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026*

The savings and transitional provisions set out in Schedule 8B have effect.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 43

43. Schedule 3 substituted

Schedule 3 to the Principal Act is repealed and
the following Schedule is substituted:

**SCHEDULE 3 – MUNICIPAL AREAS, COUNCILS
AND ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**

Sections 16, 17, 18, 25, 28JAA and 45

COLUMN N 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6	COLUMN 7	COLUMN 8
Item	Municipal areas	Council names	Councillor number category	No. of Councillors	Electoral districts	No. of Councillors for each electoral district	Allowance bands
1.	Break O'Day CPR 2470	Break O'Day Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
2.	Brighton CPR 2477	Brighton Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
3.	Burnie CPR 2049	Burnie City Council	2	7	...	...	2.1
4.	Central Coast CPR 2614	Central Coast Council	2	7	...	...	2.1
5.	Central Highlands CPR 2463	Central Highlands Council	3	7	...	...	2.4
6.	Circular Head CPR 2465	Circular Head Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
7.	Clarence CPR 2976	Clarence City Council	1	9	...	...	1.1
8.	Derwent Valley CPR 2481	Derwent Valley Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
9.	Devonport CPR 3658	Devonport City Council	2	7	...	...	2.1

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 43

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

10.	Dorset CPR 2484	Dorset Council	2	7	...	...	2.3
11.	Flinders CPR 2978	Flinders Council	3	7	...	...	2.4
12.	George Town CPR 10734	George Town Council	2	7	...	...	2.3
13.	Glamorgan- Spring Bay CPR 2473	Glamorgan- Spring Bay Council	2	7	...	...	2.3
14.	Glenorchy CPR 9815	Glenorchy City Council	1	9	...	...	1.2
15.	Hobart CPR 9814	Hobart City Council	1	9	...	...	1.1
16.	Huon Valley CPR 2469	Huon Valley Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
17.	Kentish CPR 2979	Kentish Council	2	7	...	...	2.3
18.	King Island CPR 1790	King Island Council	3	7	...	...	2.4
19.	Kingborough CPR 2478	Kingborough Council	1	9	...	...	1.2
20.	Latrobe CPR 3657	Latrobe Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
21.	Launceston CPR 10733	Launceston City Council	1	9	...	...	1.1
22.	Meander Valley CPR 2467	Meander Valley Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
23.	Northern Midlands CPR 2482	Northern Midlands Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
24.	Sorell CPR 3510	Sorell Council	2	7	...	...	2.2

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 44

25.	Southern Midlands CPR 2486	Southern Midlands Council	2	7	...	...	2.3
26.	Tasman CPR 2981	Tasman Council	3	7	...	...	2.4
27.	Waratah- Wynyard CPR 2488	Waratah- Wynyard Council	2	7	...	...	2.2
28.	West Coast CPR 2489	West Coast Council	3	7	...	...	2.4
29.	West Tamar CPR 2982	West Tamar Council	2	7	...	...	2.1

44. Schedule 4 inserted

After Schedule 3B to the Principal Act, the
following Schedule is inserted:

**SCHEDULE 4 – METHODOLOGY FOR
 DETERMINING COUNCILLOR NUMBERS AND
 ALLOWANCES**

Sections 28JAA and 28JAB

1. Aggregate score

- (1) For the purposes of sections 28JAA and 28JAB, each council is to be allocated an aggregate score in accordance with this clause.
- (2) A council's aggregate score is the sum of the scores applicable to the council under each metric specified in Table 1.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 44

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

- (3) The score applicable to a council for a metric is the score specified in column 4 of Table 1 that corresponds to the benchmark in column 3 of that table applicable to the council for the metric specified in column 2 of that table.

Table 1			
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Item	Metric	Benchmark	Score
1.	Population size	Less than 15,000	1
		15,000–24,999	2
		25,000–34,999	3
		35,000–54,999	4
		55,000 or more	5
2.	Total number of rateable properties	Less than 10,000	0.5
		10,000–19,999	1
		20,000 or more	1.5
3.	5-year average value of approved development applications (\$ million)	Less than 50	1
		50–99	2
		100 or more	3

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 44

4.	Written down value of infrastructure assets (\$ million)	Less than 150	1
		150–399	2
		400 or more	3
5.	Urbanisation	Rural small	1
		Rural large	2
		Urban	3
6.	Kilometres of road	Less than 100 km	0.5
		100–249 km	1
		250 km or more	1.5

2. Interpretation of Table 1

(1) In Table 1 –

population size means the estimated resident population of the municipal area, as most recently published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics;

total number of rateable properties means the number of rateable properties in the municipal area;

5-year average value of approved development applications means the average, over 5 financial years, of the total value of

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 44

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

development applications
approved by the council;

written down value of infrastructure assets means the value, after depreciation, of the council's infrastructure assets, including stormwater assets, roads and bridges, and plant and equipment;

urbanisation means the classification of the municipal area under the simplified Australian Local Government Classification system;

kilometres of road means the total length, in kilometres, of roads for which the council is responsible, including urban and rural roads.

- (2) The value of a metric for a council is to be determined by reference to the most recent available data published or otherwise held by the Department.
- (3) The Minister may determine the data to be used for the purposes of Table 1 if the data referred to in subclause (2) is unavailable or unreliable.

3. Councillor number categories

A council is to be allocated a councillor number category specified in column 3 of Table 2 based on its aggregate score

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 44

falling within the range specified in
column 2 of that table.

Table 2

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Aggregate score	Column 3 Councillor number category	Column 4 Councillors elected
1.	14 –20	1	9
2.	6.5 –13.5	2	7
3.	less than 6.5	3	7

4. Councillor allowance bands

- (1) A council is allocated to an allowance band specified in column 3 of Table 3 based on its aggregate score falling within the range specified in column 2 of that table.
- (2) A councillor's allowance band is the allowance band allocated to the council under subclause (1).

Table 3

Column 1 Item	Column 2 Aggregate score	Column 3 Allowance band
1.	16–20	1.1
2.	14–15.5	1.2

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 45

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Aggregate score	Allowance band
3.	11.5–13.5	2.1
4.	8.5–11	2.2
5.	6.5–8	2.3
6.	less than 6.5	2.4

45. Schedule 8B inserted

After Schedule 8A to the Principal Act, the following Schedule is inserted:

**SCHEDULE 8B – SAVINGS AND TRANSITIONAL
PROVISIONS CONSEQUENT ON *LOCAL
GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (TARGETED REFORM)
ACT 2026***

Section 349D

1. Interpretation of Schedule

In this Schedule –

amendment Act means the *Local
Government Amendment
(Targeted Reform) Act 2026*.

2. Reference to alderman or aldermen

- (1) In any Act, statutory rule, by-law or other instrument made under an Act, a

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

s. 45

reference to an alderman or aldermen is taken to be a reference to a councillor or councillors, as the case requires.

- (2) This clause does not affect the validity of any appointment, election, act or decision made before the commencement of this clause.

3. Effect of certain consequential amendments

The amendment by the amendment Act of a provision of any regulations does not prevent that or any other provision of those regulations from being amended or rescinded by a subsequent regulation.

4. Transitional number of councillors

- (1) In this clause –

commencement day means the day on which section 43 of the amendment Act commences;

next ordinary election means the next ordinary election held after the commencement day.

- (2) Despite the amendments to this Act made by the amendment Act, the number of councillors for a council is, until immediately before the day on which the certificate of election for the next ordinary election is issued, to be the same as the number of councillors for the

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 45

Part 2 – Local Government Act 1993 Amended

council immediately before the
commencement day.

- (3) On and from the day on which the certificate of election for the next ordinary election is issued, the number of councillors for a council is to be determined in accordance with this Act as amended by the amendment Act.
- (4) This clause does not affect the validity of anything done by or in relation to councillors holding office before the day on which the certificate of election for the next ordinary election is issued.

**PART 3 – TASMANIAN CIVIL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ACT 2020 AMENDED**

46. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020** is referred to as the Principal Act.

47. Schedule 2 amended (General Division)

Schedule 2 to the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting paragraph (f) from clause 2 of Part 5 and substituting the following paragraph:
 - (f) sections 28ZJ, 28ZP, 28ZW and 28ZX of the *Local Government Act 1993*;
- (b) by inserting in clause 3(m) of Part 8 “, 28ZW, 28ZX” after “28ZP”.

*No. 24 of 2020

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 48

Part 4 – Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 Amended

**PART 4 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL)
REGULATIONS 2025 AMENDED**

48. Principal Regulations

In this Part, the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025** are referred to as the Principal Regulations.

49. Regulation 49 amended (Allowances for elected members)

Regulation 49 of the Principal Regulations is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting “2025” from the definition of *current period* in subregulation (1) and substituting “2026”;
- (b) by omitting subregulation (2) and substituting the following subregulation:
 - (2) For the purposes of section 28JAA of the Act, the allowance for a councillor, or the additional allowance for a mayor or deputy mayor, is –
 - (a) for the 12-month period commencing on 1 November 2026, the amount calculated by multiplying the amount specified for the relevant

*S.R. 2025, No. 24

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 4 – Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 Amended

s. 50

allowance band in Schedule 4 by the inflationary factor for the 2026 calendar year and rounding the resulting amount to the nearest whole dollar; and

- (b) for each subsequent current period, the amount calculated by multiplying the allowance for the previous period by the inflationary factor for the calendar year in which the current period commences and rounding the resulting amount to the nearest whole dollar.

50. Schedule 4 substituted

Schedule 4 to the Principal Regulations is rescinded and the following Schedule is substituted:

SCHEDULE 4 – ALLOWANCES FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Regulation 49 Column 4
Allowance band	Allowance for Councillors	Additional allowance for Deputy Mayors	Additional allowance for Mayors
1.1	52 951	29 932	115 869

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 50

Part 4 – Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 Amended

1.2	42 869	26 071	93 798
2.1	32 463	22 209	71 038
2.2	22 064	18 334	48 277
2.3	18 440	15 449	40 353
2.4	15 529	13 518	33 981

**PART 5 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING
PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2025 AMENDED**

51. Principal Regulations

In this Part, the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025** are referred to as the Principal Regulations.

52. Regulation 3 amended (Interpretation)

Regulation 3 of the Principal Regulations is amended by inserting after the definition of *associated reports and documents* the following definitions:

audio link has the same meaning as in the *Evidence (Audio and Audio Visual Links) Act 1999*;

audio visual link has the same meaning as in the *Evidence (Audio and Audio Visual Links) Act 1999*;

53. Regulation 31 amended (Voting procedure)

Regulation 31(2) of the Principal Regulations is amended by inserting “that enables each councillor present at the meeting to vote” after “determines”.

*S.R. 2025, No. 25

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 54

Part 5 – Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025
Amended

54. Regulation 45 substituted

Regulation 45 of the Principal Regulations is rescinded and the following regulations are substituted:

45. Requirement to attend meetings in person

Subject to regulations 45A and 45B, a councillor is required to attend a meeting in person.

45A. Participation in meetings by audio or audio visual link

- (1) If a meeting is to be conducted in person, a councillor may request the authorisation of the chairperson to attend the meeting, or part of the meeting, by audio link or audio visual link.
- (2) A request under subregulation (1) must –
 - (a) state the reason for the request; and
 - (b) specify the date of the meeting to which the request relates; and
 - (c) be submitted to the chairperson not less than 2 hours before the commencement of the meeting to which the request relates; and
 - (d) be in writing.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

-
- (3) A request under subregulation (1) may only be made if the councillor is unable to attend the meeting in person due to one or more of the following reasons:
- (a) a natural disaster, severe weather event or road closure preventing, or likely to prevent, the councillor from safely attending the meeting in person;
 - (b) the councillor being outside Tasmania as a consequence of the councillor's ordinary employment;
 - (c) the councillor's in-person attendance at the meeting would risk the health or safety of –
 - (i) the councillor; or
 - (ii) another person attending the meeting;
 - (d) the councillor, the councillor's spouse or partner, or a member of the councillor's family, being required to travel for medical treatment;
 - (e) the councillor being required to travel for compassionate reasons;
 - (f) the councillor being required to provide care or support to a member of the councillor's

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 54

Part 5 – Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025
Amended

- family or to the councillor's spouse or partner;
- (g) the councillor suffering from an injury.
- (4) Before the meeting to which the request relates, the chairperson is to –
 - (a) grant the authorisation if reasonably satisfied that the councillor has provided a reason specified in subregulation (3); or
 - (b) refuse to grant the authorisation if –
 - (i) not reasonably satisfied that a reason specified in subregulation (3) has been provided; or
 - (ii) reasonably satisfied that the councillor would be unable to comply with regulation 45C.
- (5) The chairperson may, during a meeting, revoke with immediate effect an authorisation granted under subregulation (4)(a) if the chairperson forms the opinion that the councillor is not providing, or is unable to provide, the councillor's full attention to the conduct of the meeting.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

- (6) A councillor attending a meeting, or part of a meeting, by audio link or audio visual link in accordance with this regulation is taken to be present at the meeting if the councillor is able to hear and be heard by the other persons participating in the meeting.
- (7) If a councillor attends a meeting, or part of a meeting, by audio link or audio visual link that is closed to the public, the councillor must comply with section 338A of the Act.

45B. Meeting conducted by audio link or audio visual link in exceptional circumstances

- (1) The chairperson may, if satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist, determine that a meeting, or part of a meeting, is to be conducted by audio link or audio visual link only.
- (2) If a determination is made under subregulation (1), the chairperson may –
 - (a) authorise councillors to attend the meeting, or part of the meeting, by audio link or audio visual link; and
 - (b) invite members of the public to attend the meeting, or part of the meeting, by audio link or audio visual link.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

s. 54

Part 5 – Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025
Amended

- (3) If a meeting, or part of a meeting, conducted in accordance with subregulation (1) is closed to the public, the chairperson –
 - (a) is to exclude members of the public from the meeting; and
 - (b) may exclude the general manager if the matter to be discussed relates to the contract of employment, or the performance, of the general manager; and
 - (c) may invite any person to remain at the meeting to provide advice or information.
- (4) Attendance at a meeting under this regulation does not count towards a councillor's attendance by audio link or audio visual link for the purposes of regulation 45C.

45C. Limit on attendance by audio link or audio visual link

A councillor must not attend more than one-third of the scheduled meetings of the council in a calendar year by audio link or audio visual link under regulation 45A.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

Part 6 – Repeal of Act

s. 55

PART 6 – REPEAL OF ACT

55. Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the first anniversary of the day on which the last uncommenced provision of this Act commenced.

Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026
Act No. 11 of 2026

*[Second reading presentation speech made in:—
House of Assembly on 14 April 2026
Legislative Council on 20 May 2026]*