

# Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Act 2021

The following reforms will commence on **10 November 2021**

- Significant amendments to the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999*, including;
  - Changes to the nomination process – providing ECSA with the responsibility to receive and manage nominations, and simplifying requirements regarding the publication of candidate profiles.
  - Changes to core election dates, to better allow ECSA to manage distribution of ballot papers and counting requirements.
  - New requirements for candidates to furnish campaign donations returns prior to the close of voting.
- Improvements to councils' internal review of decisions to enable councils to better manage frivolous or vexatious requests, and to provide the ability to refuse to consider an application for review if satisfied the subject-matter of the request has been or is already the subject of a review by the council or an investigation, inquiry or review by another authority.
- The simplification of requirements for councils to have documents available for inspection.
- The increase in the maximum by-law penalty from \$750 to \$1,250.
- The requirement for councils to obtain and consider qualified independent advice in the council CEO appointment, performance review and termination processes.