

Municipal Association Act Review
C/O Local Government Victoria
PO Box 500
MELBOURNE VIC 3002

19 June 2017

Our Ref: JB.jf
Direct Ph: (03) 5272 4898
Doc No: D17-107646

Dear Executive Director

Re: MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION ACT REVIEW

The City of Greater Geelong would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the valued contribution the MAV has provided in carrying out municipal government throughout Victoria.

The review of the *Municipal Association Act 1907* (the MA Act), is timely given the detailed review of the *Local Government Act 1989* through the *Act for the Future Directions Paper*. Council notes that the MA Act has not undergone a comprehensive review since enactment in 1907.

The reform principles outlined in the consultation paper are consistent with the reforms to the *Local Government Act 1989*, particularly in reference to a contemporary governance and accountability framework.

Council is supportive of all the proposed reforms outlined under the broad headings of:

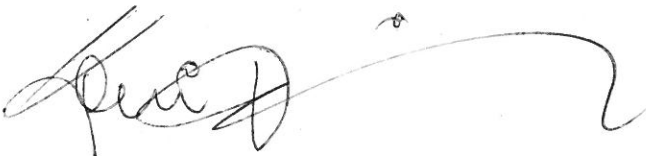
- Roles and powers;
- Responsibilities;
- Reporting and accountability, and
- Insurance.

Council anticipates these reforms will ensure contemporary standards of governance and accountability are met and this will enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of support provided to Council by the MAV.

The inclusion of a regular review mechanism to assess whether the provisions relating to MAV's insurance functions remain appropriate, including brokerage services, is strongly supported.

Council noted that the Secretary, Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning, in response to the Victorian Auditor-General's Report – *Effectiveness of Support for Local Government* stated that "LGV will approach the MAV to undertake a joint strategic planning session to address the needs of Council's. Council encourages these type of collaborative opportunities, as it will significantly contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of future support to Councils.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelvin Spiller', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

KELVIN SPILLER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER