Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill

9 May 2012

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

LEGAL ADVICE
CONSISTENCY WITH THE NEW ZEALAND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT 1990:
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 AMENDMENT BILL

1. We have considered whether the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill (PCO 15792/13.0) (‘the Bill’) is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (‘the Bill of Rights Act’). We understand that the Bill will be considered by the Cabinet Legislation Committee at its meeting on Thursday, 10 May 2012.

2. We understand that the Bill may be subject to further amendment before it is submitted to the Cabinet Legislation Committee. We will provide supplementary advice should this prove necessary.

3. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act. In reaching that conclusion, we have considered possible inconsistencies with the section 14 right to freedom of expression. This advice has been prepared by the Public Law Group and the Office of Legal Counsel.

Melanie Webb
Acting Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Legal Counsel

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