# Have your say on the future of local government representation

30 July 2026

Submissions are now open for the 2026 Local Government Representation Review, giving all Territorians the opportunity to help shape how their communities are represented by local government councils.

The review covers all 18 of the Northern Territory's local government council areas, examining whether council boundaries, wards and representation arrangements continue to fairly represent local towns and communities as populations and regions change.

The 2026 Local Government Representation Review Committee will look at factors such as population growth and movement, communities of interest, travel and communication, physical features and the unique characteristics of each region before making recommendations to the Northern Territory Government.

The committee Chair Mary Watson said local government decisions affected the places where people lived, worked and raised their families, making community input an important part of the review.

"Local government councils make decisions that have a direct impact on everyday life, from parks, libraries, cycle ways and roads through to community facilities, waste services, cemeteries and local events.

"This review is about making sure the way people are represented on their local government council continues to reflect the cities, towns and communities they live in, both now and into the future and we encourage everyone to have their say," Ms Watson said.

The review examines:

- whether ward boundaries should change;
- whether wards should be introduced or removed;
- whether the number of elected members should change;
- changes to ward names; and
- changes to local government area boundaries.

"Our role is to listen, carefully consider the evidence and community feedback, and provide recommendations to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development, who will make the final decision

"Every submission helps us better understand local communities and the issues that matter to them. Whether you're a resident, business owner, community organisation, Traditional Owner, elected member or simply someone who cares about your local area, we encourage you to get involved," Ms Watson said.

Submissions are open until 2 October 2026.

To learn more about the review or make a submission, visit www.lgrr2026.com.au.

**ENDS**

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