



MELBOURNE SOUTH YARRA RESIDENTS GROUP INC.

Established by the residents of South Yarra in 1969

1 July 2016

Hon Natalie Hutchings
Minister for Local Government
Level 27
1 Spring Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Minister

Having read your grand sounding document entitled "Act for the Future - Directions for a New Local Government Act" it is apparent that you propose to do nothing about either the ever-increasing problem of undue influence and corruption or the City of Melbourne Act despite the overwhelming and obvious need to deal with these issues. As we and others have pointed out to you on numerous occasions:

1. Division 9 of the Local Government Act fails completely to deal adequately with the problem of political donations, and
2. the electoral processes under the City of Melbourne Act are not only unrepresentative and completely inequitable but actually encourage corrupt behaviour.

Enclosed is a copy of our initial submission to you dated 16 December 2015 following which we have drawn to your attention other issues concerning The Lord Mayor and Councillor Ong.

We despair that we have another Government that is more interested in its own political future than in legislating to put an end to these obvious and significant problems.

Accordingly, if you do not make meaningful changes to the legislation to deal with these issues prior to the next election we will actively campaign against your government in the seat of Prahran and do our very best to replace you with a government that might deal with these matters properly.

I regret it has come to this but it is apparent that your own political future is the only thing that will ultimately determine the way you behave.

Yours sincerely,