

# FACT SHEET

## Local Government Amendment (Mayoral Candidate Eligibility) Bill 2014

Currently under section 41(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, a person is eligible to nominate as a candidate for the office of mayor or deputy mayor if the person has at any time been elected or appointed as a councillor of any council in the State for a period of at least 12 months.

The Local Government Amendment (Mayoral Candidate Eligibility) Bill 2014 removes this subsection, which has the effect that any person is eligible to nominate as a candidate for mayor or deputy mayor, provided that they are eligible to nominate as a candidate for councillor under Part 15 of the Act.

The removal of the 12 month restriction will enable suitable candidates to nominate as a candidate for the office of mayor or deputy mayor who are currently unable to due to this eligibility restriction. This Bill will bring Tasmania in line with other state jurisdictions.

The Local Government Association of Tasmania supports the removal of this restriction.

The amendment is to take effect before the October 2014 local government elections, nominations for which commence in September 2014.