

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

**Media Release
19 October 2009**

Local Government Forum Newsletter

The Local Government Forum is fully supportive of the government's efforts to get councils focused on core business. This is a key message contained within the latest [newsletter](#) of the Local Government Forum.

The Forum comprises business organisations that have a vital interest in the activities of local government. It advocates policies to promote greater efficiency in the sector and contributes to debate on policy issues affecting it.

The latest newsletter focuses on topical issues surrounding the current local government reforms as well as proposals for further reforms.

It includes articles on rising council expenditure, refocusing the role of local government, the use of referenda in decision making, development contributions and regulatory reform amongst others.

For further comment please contact Charles Finny on 027 544 1547

Click [here](#) to access the newsletter

Background to the Local Government Forum

The Local Government Forum comprises organisations that have a vital interest in the activities of local government. Its members include Business New Zealand, the Electricity Networks Association, Federated Farmers of New Zealand, New Zealand Business Roundtable, New Zealand Chambers of Commerce, and New Zealand Retailers' Association. The Forum was established in 1994 to promote greater efficiency in local government and to contribute to debate on policy issues affecting it.

Members of the Local Government Forum are each significant representatives of ratepayers in their own right but the Forum's perspective is to advance community welfare through the advocacy of sound public policy. Its members believe that local government can best serve the interests of the community and ratepayers by focusing on the efficient provision of public goods at a local level.