

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FORUM

22 July 2014

BUSINESS GROUPS WELCOME REGULATION TASKFORCE

The establishment of a new Taskforce to tackle 'loopy' rules and regulations will be welcomed by businesses and residents, said Michael Barnett, Chair of the Local Government Business Forum.

Mr Barnett was commenting on the Government's announcement today that a Rules Reduction Taskforce will be set up in partnership with local government to weed out pedantic and unnecessary rules.

"There are a plethora of rules that councils have to implement and administer with many of them handed down by central government legislation and regulation. The Government's press release described signage over cake stalls and positioning of shower curtains as weird examples and I'm sure there are plenty more.

"I would suggest to every council in the country that they should ask their residents and businesses to tell them of the stupid legislation that holds back growth and opportunity in their region and to offer a prize of free rates for a year for the best suggestions.

"The reality is if the constraints to growth are removed regions will attract investment, grow and provide employment", said Mr Barnett.

For more information:

Michael Barnett, phone 027 563 1150

ABOUT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FORUM

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

For more information on the Forum, see www.localgovtforum.org.nz