



**Hon David Templeman MLA**  
**Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture & the Arts**

Our Ref: 66-11852

Mr Andrew Johnson  
Secretary  
Local Government Racing and Cemeteries Employees Union  
[Andrew.johnson@lgrceu.org](mailto:Andrew.johnson@lgrceu.org)

Dear Mr Johnson

Thank you for copying me into your correspondence to the Premier dated 17 March 2020 regarding the Premier's Public Sector Circular 5/2020 in relation to COVID-19 Leave and other Flexibilities. I am responding to your concerns as the Minister for Local Government.

As you are no doubt already aware, local governments operate across a range of industrial frameworks and agreements and at the time of the Premier's announcement, I wrote to the President of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) to request support in assisting local governments in implementing a similar arrangement for their employees.

The *Local Government Act 1995* creates local governments as autonomous bodies responsible for managing their own budgets, operations and providing services to the community.

As the Minister for Local Government I do not have the power to direct local governments to adopt the same provisions as the State Government for their employees, however, I strongly encourage all Local Governments to follow our lead and make the necessary arrangements to provide their staff with the same level of certainty at this difficult time for all Western Australians.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on this important issue.

Yours sincerely

**HON DAVID TEMPLEMAN MLA**  
**MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT;**  
**HERITAGE; CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

- 1 APR 2020

Level 7, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, West Perth, Western Australia 6005  
Telephone: +61 8 6552 5400 Facsimile: +61 8 6552 5401 Email: [Minister.Templeman@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Minister.Templeman@dpc.wa.gov.au)