

# Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Act 2021

The following reforms commenced on 7 July 2022:

- Amendments to the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999* (the Act) that will reduce the circumstances in which councils must hold supplementary elections. This reform will allow a ‘successful candidate’ to be appointed by the returning officer (ECSA) where vacancies occur within twelve months of the completion of a local government election. This method will also be used in the rare circumstance where a successful candidate for election dies between the close of voting and the first meeting of the council after that election.

## Note:

The following regulations also came into operation on 7 July 2022:

- *Local Government (Elections) (Miscellaneous) Amendment Regulations 2022*, that amends the *Local Government (Elections) Regulations 2010* to —
  - determine the specific method of appointing a successful candidate in circumstances where a supplementary election need not be held;
  - change the requirement for candidate profile statements to be limited from ‘150 words’ to ‘1000 characters’;
  - clarify that information required from candidates under regulation 5(2)(e) and 5(2)(f) is not included in the ‘1000 character’ limit introduced above;
  - allow the Electoral Commission of South Australia (ECSA) to determine the method required for endorsement of candidate photographs; and
- *Local Government (General) (Electoral Advertising Posters) Amendment Regulations 2022*, that amends the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2013*, to clarify that electoral advertising material intended for general information or promotional purposes may be displayed.