**Information sheet 3**

March 2016

# New processes for council-led reorganisations

The Better Local Services package creates new processes for council-led reorganisations rather than a single Local Government Commission-led option.

## Council-led reorganisations

The package enables councils to develop, refine, and consult on reorganisation proposals. For the first time councils will be able to lead the reorganisation process, working with their local communities. Reorganisations could cover a variety of changes, from boundary changes to amalgamations, and range in scale and impact.

Council-led organisations will encourage councils, rather than the Local Government Commission, to work together to develop and consult on reorganisation proposals that work for their communities. It would make non-controversial reorganisations easier, quicker, and potentially less costly for councils and communities.

A proposal would have to be supported by all affected councils and communities and be endorsed by the Local Government Commission.

## Checks and balances

There would be checks and balances on what councils can do in leading a reorganisation:

* Councils would have to follow the same statutory criteria for reorganisations as the Local Government Commission.
* The Local Government Commission will check applications and their process but will have less discretion compared to the Commission-led reorganisation process.

## For more information

For more information see [dia.govt.nz/better-local-services](http://dia.govt.nz/better-local-services).