

# Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District

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## Cutting Council red tape for Bayswater District volunteers

Community volunteers will have the amount of bureaucratic paperwork required from them reduced under changes by the Victorian Government.

Bayswater District MP Heidi Victoria said unnecessary red tape imposed by Councils on volunteers who manage community facilities such as public halls and sporting grounds would be cut.

The Victorian Government this week released a Government Practice note to the state's local government sector on special committees established by Councils to manage public facilities such as halls, recreation reserves and undertake business promotion campaigns.

Ms Victoria said the new Practice note will set a clear expectation on Councils that they should exempt community volunteers from bureaucratic red tape.

"We don't want our volunteers, the lifeblood of our community, to be burdened by council red tape and hampered to fill out forms for something as simple as booking a local hall or community centre," she said.

"I am commonly told by volunteers in the Bayswater electorate that they have to fill out large amounts of paperwork which is unnecessary."

Ms Victoria said councils did not require personal information from volunteer members of halls or community facilities such as bank accounts, assets, loans or drivers licenses.

Under the new Practice note, councils will look to adopt simplified requirements for members of committee of managements for public facilities such as halls and recreation reserves.

These include: require only name, address, email and telephone contact details of committee members; allow tenant sporting clubs or community organisations to nominate representatives to serve on committees of management, consistent with historical practice; and exempt volunteer non-councillor members of such committees from submitting six-monthly private interests returns.

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