

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Motivation for Book	1
1.2	Outline of Book	3
1.3	A Note on Source Material for This Book	7
	References	8
 Part I History		
2	Origins and Development of Local Government Systems in Australia: An Overview	15
2.1	Introduction	15
2.2	Placing Colonial, State and Local Governments	19
2.3	Constitutionalist and State-Interventionist Systems: The History Wars in Australian Local Government Studies	26
2.4	Overview of Local Government in New South Wales 1788–1980	27
2.4.1	Early Development 1788–1858	27
2.4.2	Permissive to Comprehensive System 1858–1906	29
2.4.3	Twentieth Century: Regionalising and Greater City Movements	31
2.4.4	Assessing Attempts at Reforming the System	35
2.5	Overview of Local Government in Victoria 1833–1980	37
2.5.1	Early Settlement, Colonial and Local Government in Victoria 1833–1874	38
2.5.2	Local Government in Victoria 1874–1901	40
2.5.3	Local Government in Victoria 1901–1945	41
2.5.4	Local Government in Victoria 1945–1980	43
2.6	Overview of Local Government in Queensland 1824–1980	45
2.6.1	Voluntarism 1859–1878	46
2.6.2	Foundations 1878–1902	48

2.6.3	Democratisation and the Greater City Movement 1902–1925.	49
2.6.4	Queensland Local Government 1925–1980	50
2.7	Overview of Local Government in Western Australia 1829–1980	52
2.7.1	Events Prior to the Municipal Corporations Act 1906	53
2.7.2	Metropolitan Regionalism and Consolidation	54
2.7.3	Continuing Evidence for Voluntarism	56
2.8	Overview of Local Government in South Australia 1837–1980	57
2.8.1	Early Period: 1840–1878.	58
2.8.2	Later Period: 1879–1978.	59
2.9	Overview of Local Government in Tasmania 1803–1980.	61
2.9.1	Early Development of Hobart and Launceston	61
2.9.2	Beyond the Cities and a Comprehensive System.	62
2.10	Assessment by Power et al. (1981): Toward a Normative Theory of Australian Local Government?.	64
2.11	Observations.	70
	Appendix 1	72
	References.	74
3	Local Government and the Australian Federation: Regionalisation, Regionalism and the Struggle for Constitutional Recognition	83
3.1	Introduction	83
3.2	Federalism, Regionalism and Local Government	84
3.2.1	Local Government and the Constitutional Conventions 1890–1898	85
3.2.2	The “Great Game”: Federalism, Regionalism and Local Government.	87
3.2.3	Brown (2006): Why Regionalism Is a Federal Issue—Five Facts	91
3.3	Commonwealth Interventions Post-WWII.	93
3.3.1	Kelly et al. (2009): “Nation-Building” of the 1940s . . .	94
3.3.2	Kelly et al. (2009): “Paternalism” of the Early 1970s.	95
3.3.3	Kelly et al. (2009): “Self-sufficiency” of the 1990s . . .	97
3.3.4	Regional Institutions and Local Government Under the Howard Governments 1996–2007	98
3.3.5	Commonwealth-Local Relations Under the Labor Governments of 2007–2013 and Subsequent Developments	99

3.4	Constitutional Recognition of Local Government	102
3.4.1	Brown (2008): Financial Recognition 1974	103
3.4.2	Brown (2008): Symbolic (“Token”) Recognition 1988	105
3.4.3	The Failed Attempt at Referendum 2013	107
3.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy	113
	Appendix 1	116
	Appendix 2	117
	References	119

Part II Theory

4	Theories of Local Government and Application to Australia	125
4.1	Introduction	125
4.2	Dominant Theoretical Approach to Local Government Reform in Australia: Aulich (1999)	127
4.3	Disciplinary Perspectives	129
4.3.1	Philosophy of Place	130
4.3.2	Moral Justification for Decentralised Government: Principle of Subsidiarity	134
4.3.3	Economics of Place	135
4.3.4	Political Theory of Local Government	142
4.3.5	Local Government as Public Administration: From Government to Governance and Public Value Management	150
4.4	New Localism and Its Discontents	154
4.4.1	Recent Writing on New Localism in the Australian Context	154
4.4.2	Place-Shaping as a Theory of Local Government and Political Reform	157
4.4.3	Criticisms of New Localism	161
4.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy	165
	References	167

Part III Public Policy

5	Autonomy and Local Governments in Australia	177
5.1	Introduction	177
5.2	Autonomy	179
5.2.1	Autonomy and Democracy	179
5.2.2	Immunity and Initiative	180
5.3	Immunity and Initiative in Australian Local Government	182
5.3.1	Immunity for Local Government in Australia	183
5.3.2	Initiative for Local Government in Australia	184

5.4	Local Government in the United States: Home Rule and Dillon's Rule	193
5.4.1	Definition and Synoptic History of Home Rule.	194
5.4.2	Home Rule as Normative Theory	202
5.5	Home Rule and Australian Local Government: Out of the Mendicant Maze?	205
5.6	Observations and Implications for Policy and Research	209
	References.	212
6	Community and Community Engagement in Australian Local Government.	217
6.1	Introduction	217
6.2	Community Engagement and Community Engagement in Australian Local Government	219
6.2.1	Defining Community Engagement.	219
6.2.2	Why Community Engagement?	220
6.2.3	Types of Community Engagement	224
6.3	Outline of Legislative and Regulatory Frameworks for Community Engagement in Australian Local Government Systems	226
6.3.1	New South Wales	226
6.3.2	Victoria	228
6.3.3	Queensland	231
6.3.4	Western Australia	233
6.3.5	South Australia	235
6.3.6	Tasmania.	239
6.3.7	Northern Territory	240
6.3.8	Comparative Observations.	243
6.4	Case Study: City of Greater Geraldton 2011–15.	244
6.4.1	Background.	244
6.4.2	Community Engagement in Geraldton-Greenough.	246
6.4.3	Assessment of Geraldton-Greenough and City of Greater Geraldton Community Engagement	253
6.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy.	254
	References.	257
7	Introduction to Australian Local Government Economics and Finance.	265
7.1	Introduction	265
7.2	Major Sources of Local Government Revenue	266
7.2.1	Local Government Taxation	268
7.2.2	Local Government Fee Income	270
7.2.3	Intergovernmental Grants.	271
7.3	Expenditure.	273

7.3.1	Economies of Scale	277
7.3.2	Alternative Methods for Reducing Local Government Expenditure	278
7.4	Municipal Performance	284
7.4.1	Factors Mitigating Against Accurate Evaluations	284
7.4.2	Unintended Outcomes	286
7.4.3	Some Performance Monitoring Recommendations. . . .	287
7.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy.	288
	References.	290
8	Leadership in Australian Local Government Systems	293
8.1	Introduction	293
8.2	Reforms to Leadership in the Context of General Reform	296
8.3	Typology of Leadership Arrangements in Local Government	297
8.4	Australia: Contemporary Legislative Frameworks.	300
8.5	Conjecture and Refutation: Stronger Roles for Mayors in Australia?	309
8.5.1	Conjecture—Sansom (2012): “Semi-executive” Mayors	309
8.5.2	Refutation: Grant et al. (2014).	316
8.6	Observations and Implications for Public Policy and Research. .	320
	References.	323
9	Ethical Issues in Australian Local Government	327
9.1	Introduction	327
9.2	The Bad News: Perceptions of Australian Local Government	330
9.3	The Good News: Public Value Creation in Australian Local Government	332
9.3.1	Public Value Creation: Simple and Complex Meanings.	333
9.3.2	Objections to Public Value: Rhodes and Wanna (2007)	338
9.3.3	In Defence of Public Value in Australian Local Government: Grant and Fisher (2011).	341
9.4	Ethics and Intergovernmental Relations	344
9.4.1	Utility Maximisation Versus Rights-Based Arguments in State-Local Relations.	345
9.4.2	Beyond Utility Maximisation: The Principle of Double Effect (PDE) and Municipal Amalgamations . .	346
9.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy.	350
	References.	352

10	Local Government Amalgamations	357
10.1	Introduction	357
10.2	Brief History of Local Government Amalgamations in Australia	359
10.3	Recent Reform Processes in NSW: Fit for the Future	364
10.3.1	A Brief History of Fit for the Future	365
10.3.2	The Scholarly Evidence on Fit for the Future	368
10.4	Boundary Change 101: An Introduction for Aspiring Amalgamation Architects	372
10.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy	377
	References	378
11	The Global City Thesis in the Australian Context: A Case Study of Sydney Global City	383
11.1	Introduction	383
11.2	Inside the Bubble: Sydney, Melbourne and the Global Cities Discourse	386
11.3	Advocating Sydney Global City	391
11.4	Local Government in Sydney Global City: Contemporary Processes of Reform	393
11.4.1	Independent Local Government Review Panel (ILGRP) (2012–2013)	395
11.4.2	NSW Government “Fit for the Future” Reform Program (2014–2016)	396
11.4.3	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) (2015)	396
11.4.4	NSW Legislative Council “Local Government (Inquiry)” (2015)	397
11.4.5	Greater Sydney Commission (GSC) (2015)	399
11.5	Observations and Implications for Public Policy	401
	References	403

Part IV Future

12	The Future of Local Government in Australia: Maximising Service Delivery with Political Voice	411
12.1	Introduction	411
12.2	Principle of Subsidiarity: A More Comprehensive Moral Justification for a Greater Level of Decentralised Government	415
12.2.1	Deontological Concept of Subsidiarity	416
12.2.2	Consequentialist Concept of Subsidiarity	417
12.2.3	A More Comprehensive Theory of Decentralised Government	419

12.3	Competency: The Development of Functional and Administrative Capacity in Australian Local Government	420
12.4	Achieving Fiscal Capacity in a System of Greater Decentralised Government	422
12.4.1	Benefit Pricing.	422
12.4.2	Taxation	423
12.4.3	Debt	424
12.4.4	Intergovernmental Grants.	425
12.4.5	Own Source Revenue	426
12.5	Implications for Public Policy: More Effective, Efficient and Equitable Government	427
	References.	431
Index		435

Local Government in Australia

History, Theory and Public Policy

Grant, B.; Drew, J.

2017, XXVI, 445 p. 17 illus., 12 illus. in color., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-981-10-3865-5