

Introduction to the Rating Inquiry Forum

Basil Morrison
President, LGNZ

Context

- **Upcoming bulge of expenditure**
 - \$30.8 billion
 - operational implications
- **Political context**
 - Valuation swings (mostly in Auckland)
 - Rate-capping bill
- **Rates Inquiry established**

Principles

- Local accountability
- Local flexibility
- Local contribution to economic transformation
- Good taxation

Ground Rules

- *Getting Real* is not up for relitigation
- Avoid ‘shooting the messenger ...’
- Hold questions to the end of sessions
- No speeches
- ‘Chatham House’ rules
- This is day for everyone.