

**The Centre for Accounting Governance and Taxation Research and
The Institute for Governance and Policy Studies**

are pleased to invite you to attend this breakfast seminar

Should Wellington become a Super City?

The Local Government Commission has presented its draft proposal for one council for the whole of the Wellington region (with eight Local Boards). The proposal for amalgamation is available [here](#) and submissions to the Commission close on 2 March 2015.

At this seminar Graham Sansom will present the background and key issues relevant to the proposal, while John Shewan will present the case for the proposal and Philip Barry the case against. The presentations will be followed by opportunity for discussion.



Philip Barry

Philip Barry is a Director of TDB Advisory Ltd. TDB is a boutique corporate advisory business providing independent corporate finance and economics advice. On local government reform matters, TDB has advised the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance and Hutt City and the three Wairarapa Councils on amalgamation in the greater Wellington region. Philip is a former Director in the NZ Treasury, Advisor in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and Economic Counsellor at New Zealand's Permanent Delegation to the OECD. In recent years Philip has chaired a number of government reviews including the fourth Triennial Review of Parliamentary Appropriations and strategic reviews of various Crown companies.



Graham Sansom

Graham Sansom is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Technology, Sydney. Previously he was the foundation professor and director of the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, and before that CEO of the Australian Local Government Association. In 2011 Graham was appointed to the Australian Government's expert panel on constitutional recognition of local government, and in 2012-13 he chaired the Independent Local Government Review for the NSW state government. In 2011-12, Graham was the Don Trow Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Accounting, Governance and Taxation Research, comparing current developments in local governance in New Zealand and Australia.



John Shewan

John Shewan is a company director, Adjunct Professor in the School of Accounting & Commercial Law, and a member of the Advisory Board to the Centre for Accounting, Governance and Taxation Research and the School. He was previously Chairman of PricewaterhouseCoopers New Zealand where he specialised in tax policy and corporate tax. He is spokesperson for Better Wellington, a working party made up of volunteers from different sectors of Wellington City who firmly believe that amalgamation is the best way forward for the wider Wellington region. John has been a member of a number of bodies providing advice on taxation policy formation including the Victoria University/CAGTR Tax Working Group.

Tuesday 17 February 2015 from 7.00 am to 9.00 am

A light breakfast will be served from 7.00–7.30am

**Victoria University of Wellington, Government Buildings,
Lecture Theatre GB LT 1, 15 Lambton Quay, Wellington**

This is a free seminar. For catering purposes kindly RSVP (acceptances only) by Thursday, 12 February to vanessa.borg@vuw.ac.nz or telephone 04 463 5550.

The Pipitea Campus map (available [here](#)) shows GB LT 1 (and 2) on page 2 of the map – with the coordinates 4,5 : g,h