



UJ Press

18 May 2026

To whom it may concern

CONFIRMATION OF PEER REVIEW AND PUBLICATION

This letter serves to confirm that the following work was peer-reviewed and published by UJ Press:

Title: *101 Local Governance Lessons from the Great Governance ZA Podcast*
Thema classification: JPH
ISBN: 978-0-6398959-2-5 (Paperback)
978-0-6398959-3-2 (PDF)
978-0-6398959-4-9 (EPUB)
978-0-6398959-5-6 (XML)
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.64449/9780639895932>
Imprint: UJ Press
Page count: 574
Publication date: 15/05/2026
Author: Harlan Cloete
Affiliation: University of the Free State

We hereby certify that the original manuscript was subjected to an independent double-blind peer review process and was reviewed by external reviewers. The review reports were shared with the scholars and they adhered with great care to the recommendations for improvements made by the reviewers, and I hereby confirm that the publisher is satisfied that the manuscript was revised sufficiently according to the recommendations made by the reviewers and complies with the following benchmarks:

1. The manuscript disseminates original research which contributes to the national, and where applicable, the global knowledge in the relevant field.
2. The target audience is specialists/peers in the relevant fields and the research chapters do not constitute a textbook or a popular book intended for the general public.
3. The research methodologies followed are clear and accurate.
4. The structure and systemisation of the manuscript is in order.
5. The quality and quantity of the references are acceptable.
6. No plagiarism was noted by the editors or the external reviewers

UJ Press requires at least two positive reviews of a title before accepting it for publication. The reviews are attached to this letter. The book is available in print, as well as in electronic and audio formats.

We trust that the above should suffice, but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further enquiries.

Sincerely,



Wikus van Zyl
Manager: UJ Press

101 Local Governance Lessons

Reviewer: B

Completed: 2025-02-10 06:05:32

1. Would this title fit in well with the publications in the UJ Press catalogue?

Please comment on whether this title would enhance the catalogue of UJ Press.

Yes. It is a very topical and important issue in principle that has the potential to make a positive impact on the improvement of local governance and services delivery in SA.

**2. Would this title build the international reputation of UJ Press and the contributing authors? **

Please comment on whether this title would build the reputation of the Press and the other authors in the catalogue.

Yes

3. Is the theme of the manuscript in line with our goals of internationalisation, 4IR and the UN SDGs?

Please comment on whether this title is aligned with our goals and vision.

Yes

**4. Would this title be best suited to the UJ Press imprint (scholarly research outputs) or the Hoopoe Press imprint (general and trade publications)? **

Please comment on which imprint would be most suitable for this title.

Yes

5. Do you note any issues of ethical concern in the manuscript that you would like to make the publisher aware of?

Please comment on whether you see any issues of ethical or legal concern in the book.

No

6. Comments or Suggestions

Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the manuscript?

Yes

**7. Do you recommend that we continue with the double-blind peer-review process for this publication? **

Please indicate your recommendation.

☉ 1. Accept the proposal and submit the manuscript to a double-blind peer review process

- 2. Provisionally accept the proposal and ask the author/editor to make changes and resubmit the proposal
- 3. Reject the proposal

Review Files

Great Governance ZA - Proposal.pdf

101 Local Governance Lessons

Reviewer: C

Completed: 2025-06-10 12:14:49

1. Original research

Please indicate whether the manuscript disseminates original research and new developments within specific disciplines, sub-disciplines or fields of study.

The manuscript does not represent original 'research' in the true empirical sense of the word. However, it rather offers novel perspectives on lessons and best practices from the world of work that can supplement and even refute existing scholarly assumptions. As such, it provides highly valuable insights from practitioners upon which further scholarly inquiry can be built. The book is like a breath of fresh air and is not your typical run-of-the-mill textbook. It should thus be strongly supported.

2. Target audience

Please indicate whether the target audience of the manuscript is specialists in the relevant field.

The target population may include a plethora of readers in their role as – • Municipal managers and municipal officials • Municipal councillors • Ward committee members • Municipal co-operatives • Public officials in provincial and local spheres of government, especially COGTA • SALGA and the LGSETA • Academics and students • Non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations and other civil society organisations • Professionals such as spatial and urban planners, land surveyors, civil engineers, transport, housing and water experts, and other professionals dealing with municipal services. As such, the target audience is much broader than specialists.

3. Structure & Methodology

Please indicate whether the manuscript is structured in a logical manner and whether the methodology is clear.

The manuscript is not structured conventionally. However, the classification of text in related Chapters and suitable Sections is logical and makes it more user-friendly.

4. Referencing

Please indicate whether the referencing in the manuscript is up to standard and done uniformly in the same referencing style throughout.

Not applicable (not standard academic text)

5. Depth of Research

Please indicate whether the depth of research is sufficient and whether it engages the current literature on the topic.

Not applicable. The text is characterised by depth of personal insight rather than depth or rigour of research.

6. Plagiarism

Please indicate if you suspect any plagiarism or self-referencing in the book.

None

7. Ethics

Please comment on whether you see any issues of ethical or legal concern in the book.

None, the content conveys personal insights from practitioners as contributors.

8. Comments or Suggestions

Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the manuscript?

I thoroughly enjoyed reading it and strongly believe it makes a novel and unique contribution by establishing a 'community of practice' upon which future scholarly research can build. It is a great initiative!

9. Recommendation

Do you recommend the manuscript for publication?

- I recommend the publication of the manuscript without any changes
- I recommend the publication of the manuscript with minor changes
- I recommend the publication of the manuscript after major changes
- I do not recommend the publication of the manuscript

Review Files

Great Governance ZA - Proposal.pdf

101 Local Governance Lessons

Reviewer: D

Completed: 2025-07-22 06:55:16

1. Original research

Please indicate whether the manuscript disseminates original research and new developments within specific disciplines, sub-disciplines or fields of study.

The paper is well written but its lack academic rigour which could be enhanced by citations

2. Target audience

Please indicate whether the target audience of the manuscript is specialists in the relevant field.

Its not clear who are is the target audience. To me its more an opinion piece which can be a general article to concerned stakeholders

3. Structure & Methodology

Please indicate whether the manuscript is structured in a logical manner and whether the methodology is clear.

There is no methodology in this article

4. Referencing

Please indicate whether the referencing in the manuscript is up to standard and done uniformly in the same referencing style throughout.

There are no references provided

5. Depth of Research

Please indicate whether the depth of research is sufficient and whether it engages the current literature on the topic.

In terms of scholarly literature, the article has several limitations. It reads more like a newspaper article than a scholarly manuscript.

6. Plagiarism

Please indicate if you suspect any plagiarism or self-referencing in the book.

None observed

7. Ethics

Please comment on whether you see any issues of ethical or legal concern in the book.

None observed

8. Comments or Suggestions

Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the manuscript?

If its more of an academic article I strongly recommends that the manuscript be referenced. Many paragraphs are not properly cited

9. Recommendation

Do you recommend the manuscript for publication?

- I recommend the publication of the manuscript without any changes
- I recommend the publication of the manuscript with minor changes
- I recommend the publication of the manuscript after major changes
- I do not recommend the publication of the manuscript

Review Files

Great Governance ZA - Proposal.pdf