

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to allow the chairperson of a council meeting to cast a second vote (casting vote) on a motion/question arising for decision at a council meeting in the event of an equality of votes.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to all council members presiding as chairperson at council meeting.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

3.1 CHAIRPERSON HAS A CASTING VOTE

If there is an equality of votes on a question arising for decision at a council meeting, the chairperson has a casting vote.

3.2 USE OF CASTING VOTE

A casting vote is to be exercised by the chairperson when there are equal votes on a question arising for decision at a council meeting. During such an occurrence, the casting vote will determine the vote. The chairperson must exercise the casting vote either in favour or against the motion.

If there are unequal votes, the chairperson cannot exercise a casting vote.

4 DEFINITIONS

Council Meeting refers to Ordinary or Special Meetings of Council, see section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*

5 LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

Section 95(6) of the Local Government Act 2019

6 PROCEDURES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

Meetings – 043

7 RESPONSIBILITY AND APPLICATION

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring that Council members presiding as chairperson at council meetings implements this policy.

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