

4.2 Election of Deputy Mayor

REPORT BY THE MANAGER, CUSTOMER SERVICES & GOVERNANCE
TO 27 SEPTEMBER 2023 EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
GOV400066, GOV400054, GOV400098

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Manager, Customer Services & Governance on the Election of Deputy Mayor;**
2. **determine that the Ballot for the election of the Deputy Mayor be by Open Voting/ Ordinary Ballot/Preferential Ballot (delete two);**
3. **designate the General Manager as the Returning Officer for the election with the election to be conducted by the General Manager and the Manager Customer Services and Governance; and**
4. **elect the Deputy Mayor for the term of 27 September 2023 to 14 September 2024.**

Executive summary

This report provides the direction to elect the Deputy Mayor for the period 27 September 2023 to 14 September 2024 with the next Council election scheduled to occur on Saturday 14 September 2024.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

The Deputy Mayor is elected by the Councillors from among their number.

The Local Government Act 1993 provides that where the Deputy Mayor is elected by the Councillors from among their number, the Deputy Mayor shall hold office for the Mayoral term or a shorter period (Section 231). Deputy Mayors hold their office for the term specified by the Council's resolution.

The term of office of Deputy Mayors elected in September 2023 will automatically expire on 14 September 2024, when their term as a Councillor expires.

As provided by Clause 394 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the conduct of the election of the Deputy Mayor is governed by the provisions of Schedule 7 of that Regulation.

Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 Requirements

The Returning Officer for the election of the Deputy Mayor shall be the General Manager (or a person appointed by the General Manager). The General Manager has indicated that he will act as Returning Officer and that the Manager Customer Services and Governance will assist.

Nominations for the Deputy Mayor shall be in writing, but may be without notice, by two (2) or more Councillors (one of whom may be the nominee). The nomination is not valid unless the nominee has indicated consent to the nomination in writing.

The nomination is to be delivered or sent to the Returning Officer who is to announce the names of the nominees at the Council Meeting at which the election is to be held.

If only one candidate is nominated, that Councillor is elected.

When more than one candidate is nominated, the Council may, by resolution, decide whether the election shall be carried out by:

- a) Ordinary Ballot - Involving the marking of Ballot Papers - subsequent exclusion of one candidate; further voting and exclusions; repeated until two candidates only remain, final vote between remaining two candidates.
- b) Open Voting - Procedure identical to Ordinary Ballot, however, the voting is by show of hands or similar means, not a Ballot Paper.
- c) Preferential Ballot - The complete numbering of Ballot Papers in consecutive order of preference for all candidates, commencing with "1" as first preference.

Drawing of Lots

If this becomes necessary, it shall be done by the Returning Officer.

In any case for the purpose of excluding a candidate, the candidate's name drawn shall be excluded. In any case for the purpose of electing a candidate, the candidate's name drawn shall be elected.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Good Government
Goal	Strong civic leadership
Strategy	Provide strong representation for the community at Regional, State and Federal levels

Financial implications

Not applicable

RICHARD CUSHWAY
MANAGER, CUSTOMER SERVICES &
GOVERNANCE

SIMON JONES
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

12 September 2023

Attachments: Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER