

6.2.17 Review of Code of Meeting Practice

REPORT BY THE MANAGER GOVERNANCE TO 2 APRIL 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

Code of meeting practice
GOV400038, A0110003

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. the report by the Manager Governance on the Review of Code of Meeting Practice be received;**
- 2. Council formally adopt the proposed amendments to the Code of Meeting Practice.**

Executive summary

To consider amendments to the Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Detailed report

Council at its meeting on 5 February 2014 considered a Mayoral Minute recommending amendments to the Council's Code of Meeting Practice and resolved as follows:

"That:

- 1. the Mayoral Minute regarding Code of Meeting Practice – Amendment be received; and*
- 2. Council delete existing clause 35 of the Council's Code of Meeting Practice and replace with the following:*

"35 MODE OF ADDRESS

- (1) All Councillors and staff, other than the Chairperson, who are invited to speak at a Council meeting must stand to address Council, unless prevented from doing so by disability or injury;*
 - (2) When Councillors wish to address the Council, they shall indicate by raising their hand and await the invitation by the Chairperson to speak;*
 - (3) A Councillor will not be required to stand when moving or seconding a motion only;*
 - (4) When the Chairperson stands any Councillor and/or staff who are speaking shall cease speaking and resume their seats immediately;*
 - (5) Where the Chairperson, a Councillor or staff member is speaking, all others present in the Chamber shall remain silent unless raising a point of order;*
 - (6) In addressing the Council, Councillors, staff and other persons addressing the Council shall at all times address other Councillors by their official designation, as Mayor or Councillor, as the case may be;*
 - (7) Councillors shall at all times conduct themselves in accordance with the general conduct obligations contained in the Council's Code of Conduct and shall respect the right of their fellow Councillors to speak without interruption.*
- 3. The votes of all the Councillors are recorded on every issue."*

While the Council determined to follow the procedures set out in its decision immediately, the Local Government Act provides that public notice must be given for at least 28 days to any amendments to the Code, with persons being given at least 42 days to make submissions.

This proposal was advertised in the Mudgee Guardian and Council's website on Friday 7 February 2014 with submissions being accepted up to 4.30pm on Friday 21 March 2014.

No submissions were received.

A copy of the Council's Code of Meeting Practice is attached, with the relevant amendments shown as "track changes".

Financial and Operational Plan implications

Not applicable.

Community Plan implications

The Council's Code of Meeting Practice applies.

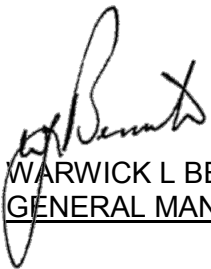


IAN ROBERTS
MANAGER GOVERNANCE

24 March 2014

Attachments: 1. Code of Meeting Practice (included at the end of the business paper).

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:



WARWICK L BENNETT
GENERAL MANAGER