

COUNCIL POLICY

Council Policy Title:	Casting Vote Guidelines
Council Policy ref. no:	18.10
Responsible Department:	Corporate and Community Services
Date of adoption/review:	24 July 2013

1. INTRODUCTION

Council's Local Law 4 2009 – Council Meeting Procedures and Common Seal was adopted by Council on the 24 February 2010.

Clause 48 of the Local Law Equality of Votes

In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson has a casting vote except in cases where the Act provides that a matter is to be determined by lot.

Council has guidelines for the Chairperson with respect to their exercising a casting vote at Council meetings and Planning Committee meetings. Council's expectation is that the guidelines will be followed.

Council acknowledges that the chairperson is always free to exercise a casting vote as he/she sees fit, notwithstanding the expectations mentioned above.

These guidelines are for the exercising of the casting vote at Council meetings and Planning Committee meetings

2. GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are for the exercising of the casting vote at Council meetings and Planning Committee meetings.

Council's expectation is that in the event of an item first coming before Council having an equality of votes that the chairperson will generally vote in the negative unless there is an imminent deadline that requires an immediate decision.

Council's expectation is that the item should then be listed for the next Ordinary Council meeting. If there is an equality of votes when the item is re-presented to Council, then the expectation is that the chairperson will use the casting vote to finally resolve the matter.

Council acknowledges that the chairperson is always free to exercise the casting vote as he/she sees fit, notwithstanding the expectations outlined above.

3. RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1989 – Sections 90(1)e and 90(2)

4. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

This policy will be implemented by Council and is subject to periodic review.

ADOPTED/AMENDMENT OF POLICY

Policy Review Date	Reason for Amendment
24 December 2010	Adopted by Council
24 July 2013	Review