

COUNCIL POLLS COUNCIL POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

The purpose of this policy is to govern situations where a report is presented in a Council or Committee agenda seeking the appointment of Council Members to be members/representatives on a committee, working group or panel.

The Mayor/Presiding Member will call for nominations to fill the vacancies, and if the number of nominees exceeds the number of vacancies, the Mayor will request that the CEO conduct a poll to determine the nominees for that committee, working group, or panel.

For the purpose of this policy, a committee, working group, or panel can be those of either the City of Bunbury or any other organisation.

POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to polls undertaken at meetings of the Council that are not otherwise enshrined in legislation. For example, this typically includes situations where a poll is required due to surplus nominations where Council is making appointments to its committees, working groups, panels and the like.

Elections of Deputy Mayor and Committee Presiding Members are outside of the scope of this policy as they are conducted in accordance with Schedules 2.3 and 4.1 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

POLICY DETAILS

Polls undertaken under the scope of this policy will be conducted according to the following process, utilising a first-past-the-post methodology:

1. The CEO will ensure all Council members present at the meeting have means to express their vote (i.e. ballot papers).
2. If a Councillor has been approved to attend the meeting via electronic means, the CEO will consult with the Mayor and that Councillor to determine an appropriate mechanism for them to participate in the poll (e.g the Councillor provides their vote to the CEO via text message or email).
3. The CEO will count the votes.

4. If the poll is to fill one vacancy, the nominee who receives the greater or greatest number of votes is selected.
5. If the election is to fill 2 or more vacancies, the nominees selected are:
 - a) The nominee who receives the greatest number of votes; and
 - b) The nominee who receives the next highest number of votes; and
 - c) The nominee who receives the next highest number of votes, and so on until the number of vacancies are filled.
6. If 2 or more candidates receive the same number of votes so that steps 4 or 5 cannot be applied, the CEO is to draw lots to determine which nominee is selected.
7. The CEO is to advise the Council of the result of the poll and ensure that the original recommendation as presented is updated to include the selected nominees.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1995

INDUSTRY

ORGANISATIONAL

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