

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: S051923 **DATE:** 24 June 2022

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 6.6 – Public Exhibition - Code of Meeting Practice

Alternative Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) approve the draft Code of Meeting Practice as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, for public exhibition for a period of 28 days and specifying a period of not less than 42 days during which submissions may be made, ***subject to the following amendment:***

Amendment of clause 15.10

15.10 Councillors are also to verbally declare any ***non***-pecuniary interest at the commencement of each meeting when disclosures are sought from the Chair.

- (B) note that a further report will be submitted to Council following exhibition.

Additions shown in ***bold italics***, deletions shown in ~~strike through~~.

Purpose

To provide additional information and options on the draft Code of Meeting Practice for Council consideration.

Background

At the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 20 June 2022 further information was sought on the draft Code of Meeting Practice.

Disclosure of non-pecuniary interests

A typographical error has been identified in clause 15.10 of the draft Code of Meeting Practice. This clause should be amended to read –

15.10 Councillors are also to verbally declare any **non**-pecuniary interest at the commencement of each meeting when disclosures are sought from the Chair.

Additionally, following Councillor enquiries, it has been confirmed that supplementary clause 15.10 could be removed from the Code of Meeting Practice should Councillors choose to do so. This would mean that declarations relating to non-pecuniary interests by Councillors would be made only in writing but would still be included in full in the minutes of the Committee or Council meeting. Where a non-pecuniary interest is considered by the Councillor to be significant they would still need to acknowledge it at the specific item and leave the meeting.

It is noted that supplementary clause 15.4 requires the verbal disclosure of pecuniary interest. Staff recommend that this clause be retained due to the different requirements for these disclosures under the Code of Conduct.

The following amendment could be considered.

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) approve the draft Code of Meeting Practice as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, for public exhibition for a period of 28 days and specifying a period of not less than 42 days during which submissions may be made, ***subject to the following amendment:***

Deletion of clause 15.10

~~15.10 Councillors are also to verbally declare any **non**-pecuniary interest at the commencement of each meeting when disclosures are sought from the Chair.~~

- (B) note that a further report will be submitted to Council following exhibition.

Additions shown in ***bold italics***, deletions shown in ~~striketrough~~.

Addressing council

Councillors also requested further information on the inclusion of provisions to allow members of the public to address Council meetings.

Supplementary provisions similar to the process currently adopted to enable members of the public to address a Committee could be considered at Part 8.

Prepared by: Erin Cashman, Council Business Coordinator

Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P.M. Barone", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MONICA BARONE

Chief Executive Officer