

Casting Vote

Council Policy



Owner	Elected Members		
Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer		
Decision Number	R-178-2025		
Document Number	Governance Use	Approval Date	23 September 2025
Records Number		Next Review Date	2029

1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to allow the chairperson of a council meeting to cast a second vote (casting vote) on a question arising for decision at a council meeting in the event of an equality of votes.

2 Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
Chairperson	As per section 95(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019 (the Act)</i> : (a) if the Mayor is present – the Mayor; or (b) if the Mayor is not present but the Deputy Mayor is present – the Deputy Mayor; or (c) if neither the Mayor nor the Deputy Mayor is present but an acting Mayor is present – the acting Mayor; or (d) if neither the Mayor nor the Deputy Mayor is present and there is no acting Mayor or the acting Mayor is not present – a member chosen, by resolution, by the members present at the meeting to chair the meeting.

3 Policy Statement

3.1 Principles

3.1.1 A casting vote applies to ordinary and special meetings **only** as defined under section 95 of the Act.

3.2 Use of casting vote

If an equality of votes by Elected Members occurs on a question arising for decision at a council meeting, the chairperson has the casting vote. The use of casting vote is inclusive of the Appointment of Deputy Mayor.

The chairperson must exercise the casting vote either in favour or against the question arising for decision.

If there is not an equality of votes, the chairperson cannot exercise a casting vote.

4 Responsibilities

The CEO is responsible for implementing this policy.

5 Related Legislation and Documents

Local Government Act 2019

Casting Vote

Council Policy

6

Communication and Training

Will this policy be communicated through consultation to teams?	Yes
Where will this policy be available?	Website
Will training needs arise from this policy? If yes, who will be responsible.	CEO