

POLICY TITLE:	CASUAL VACANCY ON COUNCIL
POLICY NUMBER:	P22
CATEGORY:	COUNCIL POLICY
CLASSIFICATION:	GOVERNANCE
STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE:	Review of Council Policies and Procedures
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND PERFORMANCE: Council shall consist of 7 members throughout its term IAW this policy	
STATUS: Final	Council Resolution: 2017/07
Date Approved: 20 September 2016	Date for review: Next Council Election

SUMMARY

Section 39 of the Local Government Act (the Act) stipulates that Council shall have a policy on the filling of a casual vacancy that occurs within 18 months of the next general election.

OBJECTIVE

This Policy provides clear direction for the filling of a casual vacancy on Council.

POLICY

1. If a casual vacancy occurs within six months of the next general election, Council shall not co-opt a person, provided the casual vacancy has not reduced membership of Council below four members.
2. If a casual vacancy occurs within more than six months and less than eighteen months until the next general election, Council will co-opt a person to fill the vacancy until the next general election.
3. To co-opt a person Council shall:
 - (a). Seek expressions of interest from eligible persons by advertising on the Council website, social media page and in hardcopy format on the council and supermarket notice boards;
 - (b). Council shall consider the list of persons, plus any further names that may be added by Council and select one person to fill the vacancy.

In selecting a person Council shall give due consideration to:

1. The eligibility for membership as per Section 36 of the Act;
2. The length of residence in the community
3. Demonstrated interest in community affairs.

Council may at its discretion ask potential persons to make a short presentation to Council as part of the selection process.

This policy is applicable to all elected members.

REFERENCES:

Local Government Act
Local Government Electoral Regulations