

Casting Vote Policy

MC12-CP



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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. Scope

This policy applies to the chairperson of all MacDonnell Regional Council meetings – ordinary and special.

3. Objectives

This policy provides direction to the chairperson in determining decisions where votes are equal.

4. Statement

4.1 Chairperson has a casting vote

If there is an equality of votes on a question arising for decision at a council meeting, the chairperson has a casting vote.

4.2 Compulsory voting

In accordance with s95(5) of the *Local Government Act 2019* each member present at a meeting has and must exercise one vote on a question arising for decision at the meeting.

4.3 Use of casting vote

A casting vote is to be exercised by the chairperson when there are equal votes on a question arising for decision at a council meeting. During such an occurrence, the casting vote will determine the vote. The chairperson must exercise the casting vote either in favour or against the motion.

If there are unequal votes, the chairperson cannot exercise a casting vote.

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5 Policy Details

Replaces Policy:	Not applicable
Responsible Directorate/Department:	Corporate Services – Governance and Compliance
Approval Date:	28 October 2022
Minutes Reference and Resolution number:	OCM Item # 15.8 – OCM2022-160
Review Cycle:	September 2026 - Anticipated date of the first council meeting held after the next general election.

6 Legislation and References

Related Legislation	<i>Local Government Act 2019</i>
	<i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i>
Related Policies	MC02-CP Meetings Policy
Related Procedures	MC02-P1 Council Meetings Procedure
Associated Documents	

7 Version control

Version No.	Approval Date	Policy No.	Minutes reference and Resolution number
1	28 October 2022	MC12-CP	OCM Item # 15.8 – OCM2022-160