

12.1 Endorsement of Presiding Members and Deputy Presiding Members to Council Committees

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Disclosure of Any Interest	Nil
Attachments	Nil

PURPOSE

To reconfirm and endorse all existing Presiding Members and Deputy Presiding Members appointments to Council Committees.

BACKGROUND

Reforms proclaimed late last year require Local Governments to appoint Committee Presiding Members and Deputy Presiding Members by absolute majority Council decision by no later than 1 July 2025. This applies to all current Committees established under section 5.8 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (LG Act), including Audit Committees.

STATUTORY / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The amended section 5.12 and 5.13 provisions requires Local Governments Elections to appoint, by absolute majority, the Presiding Member / Deputy Presiding Member for each committee.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Committees, Advisory Groups, Representatives Meetings and Working Groups Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Mundaring Council Plan 2024 - 2034

Objective 10 - Sustainable Governance

Outcome 10.1 - Strengthen organisational culture, governance, financial management and asset management.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk: Compliance – The <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> amendments require for all existing Committees to endorse presiding members and deputy members by absolute majority of Council by 1 July 2025		
Likelihood	Consequence	Rating

Unlikely	Minor	Low
Action / Strategy		
Report to Council to reappoint all presiding members and deputy members for all Committees before 1 July 2025		

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

The Council Decision will be communicated in the following way/s.

Direct to stakeholder/s	x
Website article/ post	
Social media post	
Print article/ media release	
E-newsletter/ Community update	
Advertisement	
Nil	

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Nil

COMMENT

The *Local Government Act 1995* in Western Australia has undergone changes concerning the appointment of presiding members and deputy presiding members for committees. Instead of committee members electing these roles, the council now appoints them by absolute majority. This change applies to all current and new committees, including Audit Committees, with the deadline for existing committees being July 1, 2025.

This report does not seek to nominate new presiding/deputy members, rather seeks to confirm and re appoint existing presiding and deputy members through Council resolution to the appointments that were previously made by the committees.

The Committees, Advisory Groups, Representatives Meetings and Working Groups Policy will be reviewed to align with the legislative change and brought back to a future Council meeting.

The Terms of Reference for affected committees will also be amended to reflect this new statutory requirement. This will occur to coincide with the October 2025 local government elections, when Council reviews all terms of reference to ensure they remain relevant to the operations of the committees, working groups etc.

The Australia Day Citizenship Awards Committee is not included in this report, as it is not due to meet until December 2025, and this will be after the 2025 Elections. New members and presiding officers will be appointed from the new Council after elections.

The Audit and Risk Committee is not included in this report as the presiding member and deputy member were appointed by Council resolution in January 2025.

Please note that the earlier report on this agenda item 10.3 Appointment of Council Members to Shire Committees and External Organisations deals with the appointment of the presiding member for the CEO Performance Review Committee..

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute Majority - *Local Government Act 1995* section 5.12.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council, by absolute majority, appoint:

1. Cr Prapti Mehta as Presiding Member, and Pres Paige McNeil as Deputy Presiding Member of the Governance Committee;
2. Ian Zlatnik (Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer volunteer) as the Presiding Member, and Adrian Woodley (Sawyers Valley VBFB Captain volunteer) as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee;
3. Cr Prapti Mehta as the Deputy Presiding Member of the Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee;
4. Cr Luke Ellery as Presiding Member and Cr Neridah Zlatnik as Deputy Presiding Member of the Grants Selection Committee; and
5. Cr Neridah Zlatnik as Presiding Member and Tania McKenzie (OIC Sergeant Mundaring Police) as Deputy Presiding Member of the Local Emergency Management Committee.