



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

8 March 2005

GM2	PUBLIC CONSULTATION
FILE: *	AVB

SUMMARY:

To provide a procedure that allows members of the public to address Council on any Council issue.



A report was presented to the Council meeting held on the 14 December 2004 [\(Appendix A\)](#). Council resolved: -

"That the General Manager seek feedback from other Councils on the Mid North Coast on the procedures they have in place regarding the public addressing Ordinary Council meetings"

Other Councils on the Mid North Coast allow the following: -

Bellingen Shire

- Residents are allowed to submit questions to Council in writing and are encouraged to submit the question in time for staff to prepare a response for the Council meeting. The resident is allowed to publicly ask the question at the Council meeting.

Coffs Harbour City

- Residents are allowed to address Council for five (5) minutes. There is an eight (8) speaker limit per meeting. Residents are limited to three (3) addresses each twelve (12) month period.

Gloucester Shire

- No procedures in place

Great Lakes Shire

- Residents are allowed to address Council for five (5) minutes. Addresses are limited to two (2) on any one subject.

Greater Taree City

- No procedures in place

Hastings Council

- Residents are allowed to speak for five (5) minutes. Addresses are limited to five (5) people on a first come basis.

Nambucca

- No procedures in place

Each Council does not allow resolutions as a result of the public addresses but the Mayor commits to a staff follow up.

If Council wishes to proceed with allowing the public to address Council on any topic the dot points in my report to the 14 December 2004 are still relevant. The second last dot point could be altered to allow residents to speak on more than one subject but limited to five (5) minutes in total.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- ***Social***

Nil

- ***Economic (Financial)***

Nil

- ***Policy or Statutory***

Councils Code of Meeting Practice will need to be altered to include any procedures.

- ***General Manager's Review***

As per report.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Council's determination.

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A V Burgess
GENERAL MANAGER