



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

8th August 2006

DCS8	TERMS OF MEMBERS ON COUNCIL COMMITTEES FILE: 198 PJH
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SUMMARY:

To re-submit for Council's consideration the terms of members serving on Council's committees.



DESCRIPTION:

At Council's meeting of 13th December 2005 a Notion of Motion was submitted by Councillor Sowter on the term of members serving on Council's committees.

Council resolved at that meeting *"That discussion on the make up of Council committees be deferred until the August 2006 Ordinary Council meeting"*.

The Notice of Motion that was moved by Councillor Sowter is reproduced below: -

- "1 *That the community members of Council's committees appointed by Council at its meeting on 15th November 2005 continue to serve for the remaining term of this Council i.e. to September 2008 and the future term of the community member appointments be for the same four (4) year term of the Council.*
- 2 *That the Councillor and staff members of Council's committees appointed by Council at its meeting of 13th September 2005 continue to serve for the remaining term of this Council and the future term of Councillor and staff member appointments be for the four (4) term of the Council.*

- 3 *That the General Manager be authorised to alter community membership of the committees during the term of the appointments.*
- 4 *That Council's policy C24:13 Committee Meeting Arrangements be amended in accordance with this resolution and the Standing Orders for committees be amended to provide that in the event of a member being absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without a reason acceptable to the committee, then the position be declared vacant. "*

Current status of committee members

The existing community members of Council's committees were appointed at the November 2005 Council meeting following Council advertising for expressions of interest from persons seeking to serve on the various committees that have community members. They were appointed until September 2006.

The Councillor and staff members on the committees were appointed at the September 2005 meeting for a 12 month term.

If Council was to confirm at this meeting that the 12 month term is to remain, the advertising process for community members could be commenced.

Alternatively Council may wish to defer any decision on the term of the committee members until the September meeting when the 12 month committee evaluation report will be presented and Councillor and staff members for the next 12 months are appointed.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- ***Social***

The community involvement in committees is an important part of Council's consultation process whereby the community has input into Council's decisions.

- ***Economic (Financial)***

The financial impact of having community members is minimal in that they serve on a voluntary basis and are not remunerated in any way by Council. The staff time to advertise, collate and report to Council on nominations on a 12 monthly basis is cost, albeit an indirect cost.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Council policy C24:13 covers "Council Meeting Arrangements" specifically covers arrangements for committees that include members who are not councillors. Council altered this policy at the September 2005 meeting to allow for community member positions to be declared vacant each 12 months.

- *Directors Review*

This matter is for Council's determination.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Council decision.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES