

Notice is given that the inaugural meeting of the Motueka Community Board will be held on:

Date: Friday 21 October 2016
Time: 9.30 am
Meeting Room: Motueka Office
Venue: 7 Hickmott Place
Motueka

Motueka Community Board

AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	To be elected	
Deputy Chairperson	To be elected	
Members	R C Horrell	C A Hutt
	B T Maru	Cr P L Canton
	Cr P H Hawkes	Cr D J Ogilvie

(Quorum 4 members)

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AGENDA

The business that must be conducted at the first meeting of a local authority after the elections is set out in the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), Clause 21, Schedule 7. Despite S51 of the LGA, a community board is a local authority for these purposes. This agenda includes all of that business as well as reports recommending that Standing Orders and a Code of Conduct be adopted. Ordinary business is seldom conducted at Inaugural meetings.

The business that must be conducted includes:

- making and attesting the declarations by members
- an explanation of the laws affecting members and meetings
- fixing of the date and time for the first meeting of the Board
- electing a Chairperson

1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE - WELCOME

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Recommendation

THAT apologies be accepted.

3 DECLARATION BY MEMBERS

4 REPORTS

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5 ADDRESS BY MAYOR

4 REPORTS

4.1 VOTING SYSTEM FOR AND THE ELECTION OF CHAIR AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Decision Required

Report To:	Motueka Community Board
Meeting Date:	21 October 2016
Report Author:	Lindsay McKenzie, Chief Executive
Report Number:	MCB16-10-01

1 Summary

- 1.1 During the business of the inaugural meeting, the Motueka Community Board is required to elect a Chairperson.
- 1.2 Clause 25, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires all local authorities to determine by resolution which voting system they will use for the election of certain appointments. This includes the election of Chairperson of the Community Board (Clause 37, Part 2, Schedule 7, LGA).
- 1.3 Two systems are available for this process under the Local Government Act 2002.
- 1.4 System A requires the successful candidate to get the majority of the votes of the members present and voting. It is akin to a transferable voting system and only works if there are three or more candidates in the contest for one position. Multiple voting rounds may be needed.
- 1.5 System B is a majority vote system akin to first past the post and requires the successful candidate to get more votes than any other candidate during a single voting round. This report recommends that the Motueka Community Board adopts System B.
- 1.6 The Community Board may then use the adopted system of voting to make any other appointments as representatives of the Motueka Community Board it deems necessary, at a subsequent meeting.

2 Draft Resolution

That the Motueka Community Board

- 1. receives the Voting System for and the Election of Chair and other appointments report RGB16-10-02; and**
- 2. adopts System B, clause 25(4) of the Local Government Act 2002 for the election of a Chairperson and any other appointments as representative of the Motueka Community Board, which requires that a person is elected or appointed if he or she receives more votes than any other candidates during a single round of voting; and**
- 3. elects as Chairperson of the Motueka Community Board; and**
- 4. elects as Deputy Chairperson of the Motueka Community Board.**

3 Purpose of the Report

- 3.1 This report provides advice to the Motueka Community Board on the two systems of voting available for the election of the Chairperson, and any other appointments, as set out in Clause 25, Schedule 7, of the Local Government Act 2002, so that the Motueka Community Board can discuss and resolve to adopt one such system.
- 3.2 To request the Motueka Community Board to elect a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

4 Background and Discussion**Voting Systems**

- 4.1 Clause 25, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) stipulates that local authorities must determine by resolution which voting system they will use for the election or appointment of Deputy Mayor, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of committees and the election or appointment of representatives of a local authority.
- 4.2 Clause 37, Part 2, Schedule 7, LGA states that a Community Board must have a Chairperson, and that Clause 25 applies for the election Chairperson of the Community Board.
- 4.3 The two systems are as follows:

System A

- a) Requires that a person is elected or appointed if he or she receives the votes of a majority of the members of the local authority or committee present and voting; and
- b) Has the following characteristics:
- i. There is a first round of voting for all candidates; and
 - ii. If no candidate is successful in the round there is a second round of voting from which the candidate with the fewest votes in the first round is excluded; and
 - iii. If no candidate is successful in the second round, there is a third, and if necessary subsequent round of voting from which, each time, the candidate with the fewest votes in the previous round is excluded; and
 - iv. In any round of voting, if two or more candidates tie for the lowest number of votes, the person excluded from the next round is resolved by lot.

System B

- a) Requires that a person is elected or appointed if he or she receives more votes than any other candidate; and
- b) Has the following characteristics:
- i. There is only one round of voting; and
 - ii. If two or more candidates tie for the most votes, the tie is resolved by lot.

5 Options**Systems of Voting**

- 5.1 The Community Board may resolve to adopt either System A or System B.
- 5.2 System A – this is a form of transferable voting. It is more complex, but it does provide for the candidate to have the majority of votes at the final vote.
- 5.3 System B – this system is simple and has been used by the Council and the Motueka Community Board in the past. The person elected under this system may not have the support of the majority of Board members, however, the person with the greatest support at the first vote is elected. This is the preferred system.

6 Strategy and Risks

- 6.1 The risks are minimal and have been outlined in the options above.

7 Policy / Legal Requirements / Plan

- 7.1 The adoption of a voting system fulfils the requirements of Clause 25 and Clause 37, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

8 Significance

- 8.1 Adopting a System of Voting is considered of very low significance as it does not have financial or level of service implications, nor is it likely to be of major interest to the public.

9 Consultation

- 9.1 No consultation is required. It is a decision solely for Board members to make.

10 Conclusion

- 10.1 The Motueka Community Board is required to resolve a system of voting to enable the election of the Chairperson.

11 Next Steps / Timeline

- 11.1 Once a System of Voting is resolved, the Motueka Community Board will be able to elect a Chairperson.
- 11.2 The Board may then use the same voting system to make any other appointments for representatives of the Community Board, as it deems necessary, at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

4.2 STANDING ORDERS FOR MOTUEKA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETINGS

Information Only - No Decision Required

Report To:	Motueka Community Board
Meeting Date:	21 October 2016
Report Author:	Robyn Scherer, Executive Assistant
Report Number:	MCB16-10-02

1 Summary

- 1.1 Clause 27, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, requires all local authorities to adopt a set of Standing Orders for the conduct of its meetings and those of its committees.
- 1.2 Standing Orders is a set of rules that provide formal guidance about the way that Council and Community Boards conduct their meetings.
- 1.3 They also outline the Council's and Community Board's agreed principles of behaviour within meetings.
- 1.4 Elected members must abide by the Standing Orders adopted by the Council or Community Board unless the Standing Orders are suspended.
- 1.5 The Standing Orders 2016 (Attachment 1) are significantly different in content and format to previous versions. This is as a result of a review process undertaken in 2015/2016 by Local Government New Zealand.
- 1.6 A guide to the new Standing Orders also prepared by Local Government New Zealand is attached as Attachment 2.
- 1.7 On Thursday 20 October 2016 the Tasman District Council recommended that both Community Boards should adopt the Standing Orders 2016.
- 1.8 The Motueka Community Board is requested to adopt the Standing Orders 2016 attached to this report.

2 Draft Resolution

That the Motueka Community Board:

- 1) receives the Standing Orders for Motueka Community Board meetings report; and
- 2) adopts the Motueka Community Board Standing Orders 2016.

3 Purpose of the Report

- 3.1 To consider adopting the Motueka Community Board's Standing Orders (**Appendix 1**) as required under Clause 27, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).

4 Background and Discussion

- 4.1 Clause 27, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires local authorities to adopt a set of Standing Orders for the conduct of its meetings.
- 4.2 Standing Orders is a set of rules that provide a formal framework for the way the Council and the Community Boards conduct their meetings. They outline the Council's agreed principles of behaviour within meetings.
- 4.3 Standing Orders also ensure that the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 (and its subsequent amendments); and the Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987, amongst other legislation are met.
- 4.4 Any amendment to Standing Orders or the adoption of new Standing Orders, requires a vote of not less than 75% of members present and voting.
- 4.5 The Council and the Board adopted the last version of Standing Orders in 2013. The 2013 Standing Orders were very similar to the New Zealand Standard Model Standing Orders for Meetings of Local Authorities and Community Boards NZS 9202:2003 used by many Council's throughout New Zealand. The Model Standing Orders had not been reviewed since 2003 and did not reflect amendments to legislation since that time.
- 4.6 In 2015 Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) reacted to a demand from councils across New Zealand for a 'new-model' Standing Orders that was in line with current legislation and more 'user-friendly' in order and format. This meant that individual councils would not need to individually redesign their Standing Orders. A set of Standing Orders was developed specifically for Community Boards.
- 4.7 A working party of representatives from councils has worked with LGNZ on the redesign and rewording of the document. Although the wording of the legislation may not have changed for the most part, the wording of the guidance within Standing Orders has been changed to reduce ambiguity and use plain language. Several drafts of the revised document were subject to legal review by Simpson Grierson.

5 Substantive Changes**5.1 Time limits on speakers in public forum**

Within the 2016 Standing Orders members of the public have been given five minutes each to speak in public forum (clause 14.1, page 37). Previously the time limit was three minutes.

6 Legal Requirements

- 6.1 The Standing Orders have been legally reviewed to ensure they meet current legislation.

- 6.2 The adoption of a set of Standing Orders fulfils the requirements of Clause 27, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 6.3 Such adoption also ensures that other legislation, such as the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, is complied with.

7 Consideration of Financial or Budgetary Implications

- 7.1 There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

8 Significance and Consultation

- 8.1 Adopting a set of Standing Orders is considered of very low significance as it does not have a high degree of public interest and it does not impact on levels of service or have financial implications. Consultation is therefore not recommended.

9 Conclusion

- 9.1 It is recommended that the Motueka Community Board adopt the Standing Orders 2016.

10 Next Steps / Timeline

- 10.1 The Standing Orders will come into effect when adopted by resolution and will apply to all meetings of the Full Council, its Committees, Subcommittees, quasi-judicial committees and subordinate decision-making bodies.

11 Attachments

1. Motueka Community Board - Standing Orders 2016

13



Standing Orders

Motueka Community Board

21 October 2016

Preface

These standing orders have been designed specifically for community boards and meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and are recommended for the use of community boards by the Community Board Executive.

Community boards are required under cl. 27 Schedule 7 the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) to adopt a set of standing orders for the conduct of their meetings and those of its committees and subcommittees.

Standing orders contain rules for the orderly conduct of the proceedings of community boards and any community board committees or subcommittees. Their purpose is to enable community boards to exercise their decision-making responsibilities in a transparent, inclusive and lawful manner.

In doing so the application of standing orders contributes to public confidence in the quality of local government and democracy in general.

For clarification whenever a question about the interpretation or application of these standing orders arises, particularly if the matter is not provided for in the standing orders, it is the responsibility of the Chairperson to make a ruling.

All members of a community board must abide by these standing orders.

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1. Introduction

These Standing Orders have been prepared to enable the orderly conduct of community board authority meetings. They incorporate the legislative provisions relating to meetings, decision making and transparency. They also include practical guidance on how meetings should operate so that statutory provisions are complied with and the spirit of the legislation fulfilled.

To assist elected members and officials the document is structured in three parts:

- Part 1 deals with general matters
- Part 2 deals with pre-meeting procedures
- Part 3 deals with meeting procedures.

Following Part 3 the Appendices provide templates and additional guidance for implementing provisions within the Standing Orders. Please note, the Appendix is an attachment to the standing orders and is not part of the standing orders as adopted by the community board.

In addition the Standing Orders Guide provides advice and good practice tips for Chairpersons and staff on the implementation of the standing orders.

1.1 Principles

Standing orders are part of the framework of processes and procedures designed to ensure that our system of local democracy and in particular local government is transparent and accountable. Standing orders give effect to the principles which underpin good governance. Key principles are that a local authority and consequently a community board should:

- conduct its business in an open, transparent and democratically accountable manner;
- give effect to its identified priorities and desired outcomes in an efficient and effective manner;
- make itself aware of, and have regard to, the views of all of its communities;
- take account, when making decisions, of the diversity of the community, its interests and the interests of future communities as well;
- ensure that any decisions made under these standing orders comply with the decision-making provisions of Part 6 of the LGA; and
- ensure that decision-making procedures and practices meet the standards of natural justice.

In addition, the LGA 2002 requires that all local authorities act so that “governance structures and processes are effective, open and transparent” (s. 39 LGA 2002).

1.2 Statutory references

The Standing orders combine statutory provisions with guidance on their application. Where a statutory provision has been augmented with advice on how it might be implemented the advice (so as not to confuse it with the statutory obligation) is placed below the relevant legislative reference. In some cases the language in the statutory provision may have been modernised or amended to ensure consistency with more recently enacted statutes. Original versions of each statutory provision are included in the Standing Orders’ Guidelines, the companion document.

It is important to note that during a meeting any statutory references in the standing orders apply throughout the period of the meeting, regardless of whether or not parts or all of the Standing Orders have been suspended. These provisions must also be carried through into any amendment of the standing orders that might be made.

Please note, where it is employed the word 'must', unless otherwise stated, identifies a mandatory legislative requirement.

1.3 Acronyms

LGA 2002 Local Government Act 2002

LGOIMA Local Government Official Information Act 1987

LAMIA Local Authority (Elected) Members' Interests Act 1968

1.4 Application

For the removal of any doubt these standing orders do not apply to workshops or meetings of working parties and advisory groups.

2. Definitions

Adjournment means a break in the proceedings of a meeting. A meeting, or discussion on a particular business item, may be adjourned for a brief period, or to another date and time.

Advisory group means a group of people convened by a local authority for the purpose of providing advice or information that is not a committee or subcommittee. These standing orders do not apply to such groups. This definition also applies to workshops, working parties, working group, panels, forums, portfolio groups, briefings and other similar bodies.

Agenda means the list of items for consideration at a meeting together with reports and other attachments relating to those items in the order in which they will be considered. It is also referred to as an 'order paper'.

Amendment means any change or proposed change to the original or substantive motion.

Audio link means facilities that enable audio communication between participants at a meeting when one or more of them is not physically present at the place of the meeting.

Audiovisual link means facilities that enable audiovisual communication between participants at a meeting when one or more of them is not physically present at the place of the meeting.

Chairperson means the person presiding at a meeting – the presiding member.

Chief Executive means the chief executive of a territorial or regional authority appointed under section 42 of the LGA 2002, and includes for the purposes of these standing orders, any other officer authorized by the local authority.

Clear working days means the number of working days (business hours) prescribed in these standing orders for the giving of notice; and excludes the date of the meeting and date on which the notice is served.

Committee includes, in relation to a local authority:

- (a) A committee comprising all the members of that authority;
- (b) A standing committee or special committee appointed by that authority;
- (c) A joint committee appointed under clause 30A of Schedule 7 of the LGA 2002; and
- (d) Any subcommittee of a committee described in (a), (b) and (c) of this definition.

Community board means a community board established under s.49 of the LGA 2002.

Contempt means being disobedient to or disrespectful of the chair of a meeting, or any members or officers present.

Council means, in the context of these standing orders, the governing body of a local authority.

Deputations means a request from any person or group to make a presentation to the community board which is approved by the Chairperson and which may be made in English, te reo Māori or New Zealand Sign Language.

Electronic link means both an audio and audio visual link.

Extraordinary meeting has the same meaning as defined in clause 22 of Schedule 7 of the LGA 2002.

Foreshadowed motion means a motion that a member indicates their intention to move once the debate on a current motion or amendment is concluded.

Joint Committee means a committee in which the members are appointed by more than one community board in accordance with clause 30A of Schedule 7 of the LGA 2002.

Karakia timatanga means an opening prayer.

Karakia whakamutunga means a closing prayer.

Lawfully excluded means a member of a community board who has been removed from a meeting due to contempt.

Local authority means in the context of these standing orders a regional council or territorial authority, as defined in s. 5 of the LGA 2002, which is named in these standing orders, and any subordinate decision-making bodies established by the local authority.

Mayor means the Mayor of a territorial authority elected under the Local Electoral Act 2001.

Meeting means any first, inaugural, ordinary, or extraordinary meeting of a local authority, subordinate decision-making bodies and any community or local board of the local authority convened under the provisions of LGOIMA.

Member means any person elected or appointed to the community board.

Mihi whakatau means a brief welcome typically delivered by one person without any further formalities.

Minutes means the record of the proceedings of any meeting of the community board.

Motion means a formal proposal to a meeting.

Mover means the member who initiates a motion.

Newspaper means a periodical publication published (whether in New Zealand or elsewhere) at intervals not exceeding 40 days, or any copy of, or part of any copy of, any such publications; and this includes every publication that at any time accompanies and is distributed along with any newspaper.

Notice of Motion means a motion given in writing by a member in advance of a meeting in accordance with, and as provided for, in these Standing Orders.

Open voting means voting that is conducted openly and in a transparent manner and may be conducted by electronic means. The result of the vote must be announced immediately it has concluded. Secret ballots are specifically excluded.

Order Paper means the list of items for consideration at a meeting together with reports and other attachments relating to those items set out in the order in which they will be considered. An order paper is also referred to as an agenda.

Ordinary meeting means any meeting, other than the first meeting, of a local authority or community board publicly notified in accordance with sections 46(1) and (2) of LGOIMA.

Petition means a request to a local authority which contains at least 20 signatures.

Powhiri means a formal welcome involving a Karanga from the Tangata Whenua (the home people) followed by formal speech making. A Powhiri is generally used for formal occasions of the highest significance.

Presiding member means the person chairing a meeting.

Procedural motion means a motion that is used to control the way in which a motion or the meeting is managed as specified in standing orders 24.1 – 24.7.

Public excluded information refers to information which is currently before a public excluded session, is proposed to be considered at a public excluded session, or had previously been considered at a public excluded session and not yet been released as publicly available information. It includes:

- any minutes (or portions of minutes) of public excluded sessions which have not been subsequently released by the local authority or community board;
- any other information which has not been released by the local authority or community board as publicly available information.

Public excluded session, also referred to as confidential or in-committee session, refers to those meetings or parts of meetings from which the public is excluded by the community board as provided for in LGOIMA.

Public Forum refers to a period usually at the start of a meeting for the purpose of public input.

Publicly notified means notified to members of the public by notice contained in a newspaper circulating in the district of the local authority, or where there is no such newspaper, by notice displayed in a public place. The notice may also be replicated on a council's website.

Qualified Privilege means the privilege conferred on member by s. 52 and s. 53 of LGOIMA.

Quasi-judicial refers to a meeting that involves the consideration of issues requiring the evaluation of evidence, the assessment of legal argument and/or the application of legal principles.

Quorum means the minimum number of members required to be present in order to constitute a valid meeting.

Regional Council Chairperson means the member of the governing body of a regional council elected as Chairperson of that regional council under cl.25 Schedule 7 LGA 2002.

Resolution means a motion that has been adopted by the meeting.

Right of Reply means the right of the mover of a motion to sum up the debate and reply to those who have spoken against the motion. (The right can also apply to an amendment.)

Secunder means the member who seconds a motion.

Sub judice means under judicial consideration and therefore prohibited from public discussion elsewhere.

Subordinate decision-making body means committees, subcommittees, and any other bodies established by a local authority that have decision-making authority, but not local or community boards.

Substantive motion means the original motion. In the case of a motion that is subject to an amendment, the substantive motion is the original motion incorporating any amendments adopted by the meeting.

Substantive resolution means the substantive motion that has been adopted by the meeting, or may be a restatement of a resolution that has been voted on in parts.

Subcommittee means a subordinate decision-making body established by a council, or a committee of a council, local board or community board. See definition of "Committee".

Working day means any day of the week other than:

- (a) Saturday, Sunday, Waitangi Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, the Sovereign's Birthday, and Labour Day and, if Waitangi Day or Anzac Day falls on a weekend, the following Monday.
- (b) A day in the period commencing with the 25th day of December in any year and ending with the 15th day of January in the following year.

Should a local authority or community board wish to meet between the 25th of December and the 15th day of January in the following year any meeting must be notified as an extraordinary meeting unless there is sufficient time to notify an ordinary meeting before the commencement of the period.

Working party means a group set up by a local authority or community board to achieve a specific objective that is not a committee or subcommittee and to which these standing orders do not apply.

Workshop, also described as a briefing, means in the context of these standing orders, a gathering of elected members for the purpose of considering matters of importance to the local authority at which no decisions are made and to which these standing orders do not apply.

Workshops may include non-elected members. See definition of “advisory group”.

General matters

3. Standing orders

3.1 Obligation to adopt standing orders

A community board is required to operate in accordance with standing orders for the conduct of its meetings and the meetings of its committees and subcommittees. Standing orders must not contravene any Act.

cl. 27(1) & (2), Schedule 7, LGA 2002

3.2 Process for adoption and alteration of standing orders

The adoption of standing orders and any amendment to standing orders must be made by the community board through a vote of not less than 75 % of the members present. Any amendments also require a vote of not less than 75% of the members of the community board.

cl. 27(3) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

3.3 Members must obey standing orders

All members of the community board and its committees and subcommittees must obey these standing orders.

cl. 16(1) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

3.4 Application of standing orders

These standing orders apply to all meetings of the community board and its committees and subcommittees. This includes meetings and sessions that the public are excluded from.

3.5 Temporary Suspension of standing orders

Any member of a community board may move a motion to suspend standing orders. Any such motion must include the reason for the suspension. If seconded, the Chairperson must put the motion without debate and at least 75 per cent of the members present and voting must vote in favour of the suspension if it is to pass.

cl. 27(4), Schedule 7, LGA 2002

A motion to suspend standing orders may also identify the specific standing orders to be suspended. In the event of suspension those standing orders prescribed in statute will continue to apply, such as the quorum requirements.

3.6 Quasi-judicial proceedings

For quasi-judicial proceedings the community board may amend meeting procedures. For example, committees hearing applications under the RMA 1991 have additional powers under the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1908.

3.7 Physical address of members

Every member of a community board must give to the chief executive a physical residential or business address within the district or region of the local authority and, if desired, an electronic or other address, to which notices and material relating to meetings and community board business may be sent or delivered. Members are to provide their address within 5 working days of the publication of the declaration of the election results.

4. Meetings

4.1 Legal requirement to hold meetings

A community board must hold meetings for the good government of its community. Meetings must be called and conducted in accordance with:

- (a) Schedule 7 of the LGA 2002;
- (b) Part 7 of LGMOIA; and
- (c) These standing orders.

A meeting can be adjourned to a specified time and day if required by resolution of the meeting.

4.2 Meeting duration

A meeting cannot continue more than six hours from when it starts (including any adjournments) or after 10.30pm, unless the meeting resolves to continue. If there is no such resolution any business on the agenda that has not been dealt with must be adjourned, transferred to the next meeting or transferred to an extraordinary meeting.

No meeting can sit for more than three hours continuously without a break of at least ten minutes unless the meeting resolves to extend the time before a break.

4.3 Language

A member may address a meeting in English, te reo Māori or New Zealand Sign Language. A Chairperson may require that a speech is translated and printed in English or te reo Maori.

If a member intends to address the meeting in New Zealand Sign Language, or in te reo Māori when the normal business of the meeting is conducted in English, they must give prior notice to the Chairperson not less than 2 working days before the meeting. Where the normal business of the meeting is conducted in te reo Māori then prior notice of the intention to address the meeting in English must also be given to the Chairperson not less than 2 working days before the meeting.

4.4 Webcasting meetings

Webcast meetings should be provided in accordance with the protocols contained in Appendix 5.

4.5 First meeting (inaugural)

The first meeting of a community board following a local authority triennial general election must be called by the chief executive following the declaration of the final results. The chief executive must give members not less than 7 days' notice of the meeting. However, in the event of an emergency the chief executive may give notice of the meeting as soon as practicable.

cl. 21(1) - (4), Schedule 7, LGA

4.6 Requirements for the first meeting

The chief executive (or, in the absence of the chief executive, their nominee) must chair the meeting until the Chairperson has made an oral declaration and attested the declaration (as set out in cl. 21(4), Schedule 7, (LGA 2002)).

The business to be conducted at the first meeting following a general election must include the following:

- (a) The making and attesting of the declarations required of members under cl.14, Schedule7 (LGA 2002), and
- (b) The election of the Chairperson (if any) and the making and attesting of the declaration required of the Chairperson under cl.14 Schedule7 (LGA 2002), and
- (c) A general explanation, given or arranged by the chief executive, of:
 - i. LGOIMA; and
 - ii. Other laws affecting members, including the appropriate provisions of the Local Authorities (Members Interests) Act 1968; and sections 99, 105, and 105A of the Crimes Act 1961; and the Secret Commissions Act 1910; and the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013;
- (d) The fixing of the date and time of the first meeting of the local authority, or the adoption of a schedule of meetings; and
- (e) the election of the deputy Chairperson in accordance with cl.17 Schedule7 (LGA 2002).

cl. 21(5), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

In addition, a community board will normally adopt its standing orders at the first meeting, although this is not a requirement (unless amendments are made at the meeting) as standing orders remain in force after each triennial election.

5. Appointments and elections

5.1 Elections of Chairpersons and deputy Chairpersons

When electing a Chairperson or deputy Chairperson the community board (or a committee making the appointment) must decide by resolution to use one of two voting systems set out in Standing Order 5.2.

5.2 Voting system for Chairperson and deputy Chairperson

When electing a Chairperson or deputy Chairperson the community board must resolve to use one of the following two voting systems.

System A

The candidate will be elected or appointed if he or she receives the votes of a majority of the members of the local authority or committee who are present and voting. This system has the following characteristics:

- (a) there is a first round of voting for all candidates;
- (b) if no candidate is successful in the first round, there is a second round of voting from which the candidate with the fewest votes in the first round is excluded; and
- (c) if no candidate is successful in the second round, there is a third round, and if necessary subsequent rounds, of voting from which, each time, the candidate with the fewest votes in the previous round is excluded.

In any round of voting, if two or more candidates tie for the lowest number of votes, the person to be excluded from the next round is resolved by lot.

System B

The candidate will be elected or appointed if he or she receives more votes than any other candidate. This system has the following characteristics:

- (a) there is only one round of voting; and
- (b) if two or more candidates tie for the most votes, the tie is resolved by lot.

cl. 25 Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

6. Delegations

6.1 Community boards may delegate

A community board may delegate any of its responsibilities, duties, or powers to a subcommittee or person, subject to any conditions, limitations, or prohibitions imposed by the council.

cl. (2) & (3), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

6.2 Use of delegated powers

A committee, subcommittee, member or officer to which or to whom any responsibilities, powers, duties are delegated may, without confirmation by the community board, exercise or perform them in the like manner and with the same effect as the community board itself could have exercised or performed them.

cl. 32(2) & (3)(4) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

6.3 Decisions made under delegated authority cannot be rescinded or amended

Nothing in these standing orders allows a community board to rescind or amend a lawfully made decision of a committee, subcommittee or person carried out under a delegation authorising the making of that decision.

cl. 30 (6), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

7. Committees

7.1 Appointment of committees and subcommittees

A community board may appoint the committees and subcommittees that it considers appropriate. A committee may appoint the subcommittees that it considers appropriate, unless it is prohibited from doing so by the community board.

cl. 30(1) & (2), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

7.2 Discharge or reconstitution of committees and subcommittees

Unless expressly provided otherwise in legislation or regulation:

- (a) a community board may discharge or reconstitute a committee or subcommittee, or other subordinate decision-making body; and
- (b) a committee may discharge or reconstitute a subcommittee.

A committee, subcommittee, or other subordinate decision-making body is, unless a community board resolves otherwise, discharged when members elected at a subsequent triennial general election come into office.

cl. 30 (5) & (7), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

Please note: s.12 (2) of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 states that the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group are not deemed to be discharged following a triennial election.

7.3 Appointment or discharge of committee and subcommittee members

A community board may appoint or discharge any member of a committee or subcommittee. A committee may appoint or discharge any member of a subcommittee appointed by the committee unless directed otherwise by the community board.

cl. 31 (1) & (2), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

7.4 Elected members on committees and subcommittees

The members of a committee or subcommittee may be, but are not required to be, elected members of a local authority. A community board may appoint a person who is not a member of the local authority to a committee or subcommittee if, in the opinion of the community board, the person has the skills, attributes or knowledge to assist the committee or subcommittee to fulfil their terms of reference.

At least one member of a committee must be an elected member of the community board. A staff member of the local authority, in the course of their employment, can be a member of a subcommittee but not a committee.

cl. 31(4) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

7.5 Community board may replace members if committee not discharged

If a community board resolves that a committee or subcommittee is not to be discharged under cl. 30 (7) Schedule 7, LGA 2002, it may replace the members of that committee or subcommittee after the next triennial general election of members.

cl. 31(5) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

7.6 Decision not invalid despite irregularity in membership

For the purpose of these standing orders a decision of a community board is not invalidated if:

1. there is a vacancy in the membership of the community board at the time of the decision; or
2. following the decision some defect in the election or appointment process is discovered and/or that a person on the community board at the time is found to have been ineligible of being a member.

cl. 29, Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

Pre-meeting

8. Giving notice

8.1 Public notice – ordinary meetings

All meetings scheduled for the following month must be publicly notified not more than 14 days and not less than 5 days before the end of every month, together with the dates on which and the times and places at which those meetings are to be held. In the case of meetings held on or after the 21st day of the month public notification must be given not more than 10, nor less than 5, working days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.

s. 46, LGOIMA

8.2 Notice to members - ordinary meetings

The chief executive must give notice in writing to each member of the community board of the time and place of any meeting. Notice must be given at least 14 days before the meeting unless the community board has adopted a schedule of meetings, in which case notice must be given at least 14 days before the first meeting on the schedule.

cl. 19 (5), Schedule7 LGA 2002.

8.3 Extraordinary meeting may be called

An extraordinary council meeting may be called by:

- (a) resolution of the community board, or
- (b) a requisition in writing delivered to the chief executive which is signed by:
 - i. the Chairperson, or
 - ii. no less than one third of the total membership of the community board (including vacancies).

cl. 22(1) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

8.4 Notice to members - extraordinary meetings

Notice in writing of the time and place of an extraordinary meeting called under standing order 8.3 and of the general nature of business, must be given by the chief executive to each member of the community board at least 3 working days before the day appointed for the meeting. If the meeting is called by a resolution then notice must be provided within such lesser period as is specified in the resolution, as long as it is not less than 24 hours.

cl. 22(3), Schedule7 LGA 2002.

8.5 Public notice - extraordinary meetings

Where an extraordinary meeting of a community board was called and notice of that meeting was inconsistent with these standing orders the community board must, as soon as practicable following the meeting, give public notice stating that

- (a) the meeting has occurred;
- (b) the general nature of business transacted; and
- (c) the reasons why it was not correctly notified.

s. 46(3) & (4), LGOIMA.

8.6 Process for calling an extraordinary meeting at an earlier time

If the business to be dealt with requires a meeting to be held at a time earlier than is allowed by the notice requirements specified in standing order 8.4, a meeting may be called by the Chairperson, or if the Chairperson is not available, the chief executive.

cl. 22(2) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

8.7 Notification of extraordinary meetings held at an earlier time

Notice of the time and place of a meeting called under Standing Orders 8.6, and of the matters for which the meeting is being called, must be given by the person calling the meeting, or by another person on that person's behalf, to each member of the community board and the chief executive by whatever means is reasonable in the circumstances at least 24 hours before the time appointed for the meeting.

cl. 22(4), Schedule 7 LGA 2002.

8.8 Chief executive may make other arrangements

The chief executive is to make any other arrangement for the notification of meetings, including extraordinary meetings, as the community board may, from time to time, determine.

s. 46(5) LGOIMA.

8.9 Meetings not invalid

The failure to notify a public meeting under these standing orders does not of itself make that meeting invalid. However, where a community board becomes aware that a meeting has been incorrectly notified it must, as soon as practicable, give public notice stating:

- that the meeting occurred without proper notification;
- the general nature of the business transacted; and
- the reasons why the meeting was not properly notified.

s. 46(6), LGOIMA.

8.10 Resolutions passed at an extraordinary meeting

A community board must, as soon as practicable, publicly notify any resolution passed at an extraordinary meeting of the community board unless -

- (a) the resolution was passed at a meeting or part of a meeting from which the public was excluded; or

- (b) the extraordinary meeting was publicly notified at least 5 working days before the day on which the meeting was held.

s. 51A, LGOIMA.

8.11 Meeting schedules

Where the community board adopts a meeting schedule it may cover any period that the community board considers appropriate and may be amended. Notification of the schedule, or an amendment, will constitute notification to members of every meeting on the schedule or the amendment. This does not replace the requirements under LGOIMA to also publicly notify each meeting.

cl. 19 (6) Schedule 7 LGA 2002.

8.12 Non-receipt of notice to members

A meeting of a community board is not invalid if notice of that meeting was not received, or not received in due time, by a member of the community board unless:

1. it is proved that the person responsible for giving notice of the meeting acted in bad faith or without reasonable care; and
2. the member concerned did not attend the meeting.

A member of a community board may waive the need to be given notice of a meeting.

cl. 20 (1) & (2) Schedule 7 LGA 2002.

8.13 Meeting cancellations

The Chairperson of a scheduled meeting may cancel the meeting if the Chairperson, in consultation with the chief executive, considers this is necessary for reasons that include lack of business, lack of quorum or clash with another event.

The chief executive must make a reasonable effort to notify members and the public as soon as practicable of the cancellation and the reasons behind it.

9. Meeting agenda

9.1 Preparation of the agenda

It is the chief executive's responsibility to prepare an agenda for each meeting listing and attaching information on the items of business to be brought before the meeting so far as is known, including the names of the relevant members.

The chief executive should consult the Chairperson on any business items being prepared for the agenda.

9.2 Process for raising matters for a decision

Requests for reports may be made by a resolution of the community board and must also fall within the scope of the board's delegations. A process for requesting reports is described in Appendix 10.

9.3 Chief executive may delay or refuse request

The chief executive may delay commissioning any reports that involve significant cost or are beyond the scope of the community board that made the request. In such cases the chief executive will discuss options for meeting the request with the respective Chairperson and/or report back to the subsequent meeting with an estimate of the cost involved and seek a direction on whether the report should still be prepared.

If a member makes a direct request to a chief executive that a report is prepared the chief executive may refuse. In such cases an explanation must be provided to the member.

9.4 Order of business

At the meeting the business is to be dealt with in the order in which it stands on the agenda unless the Chairperson or the meeting decides otherwise. An example of a default order of business is set out in Appendix 9.

The order of business for an extraordinary meeting must be limited to items that are relevant to the purpose for which the meeting has been called.

9.5 Chairperson's recommendation

A Chairperson, either prior to the start of the meeting and/or at the meeting itself, may include a recommendation regarding any item on the agenda brought before the meeting. Where a Chairperson's recommendation varies significantly from an officer's recommendation the reason for the variation must be explained.

9.6 Chairperson's report

The Chairperson of a meeting has the right, through a report, to direct the attention of a meeting to any matter which is on the agenda or which falls within the responsibilities of that meeting.

9.7 Public availability of the agenda

All information provided to members at a community board meeting must be publicly available except where an item included in the agenda refers to a matter reasonably expected to be discussed with the public excluded.

s. 5 & 46A, LGOIMA

9.8 Public inspection of agenda

Any member of the public may, without payment of a fee, inspect, during normal office hours, within a period of at least 2 working days before every meeting, all agendas and associated reports circulated to members of the community board and relating to that meeting. The agenda:

- (a) must be available for inspection at the public offices of the local authority (including service delivery centres), at public libraries under the authority's control and on the council's website, and:
- (b) must be accompanied by either:
 - i. the associated reports; or
 - ii. a notice specifying the places at which the associated reports may be inspected.

s. 46A (1), LGOIMA

9.9 Withdrawal of agenda items

If justified by circumstances an agenda item may be withdrawn by the chief executive. In the event of an item being withdrawn the chief executive should inform the Chairperson.

9.10 Distribution of the agenda

The chief executive must send the agenda to every member of the community board at least two clear working days before the day of the meeting, except in the case of an extraordinary meeting (see Standing Order 8.4).

The chief executive may send the agenda, and other materials relating to the meeting or other council business, to members by electronic means.

9.11 Status of agenda

No matter on a meeting agenda, including recommendations, may be considered final until determined by formal resolution of the meeting.

9.12 Items of business not on the agenda which cannot be delayed

A meeting may deal with an item of business that is not on the agenda where the meeting resolves to deal with that item and the Chairperson provides the following information during the public part of the meeting:

- (a) the reason the item is not on the agenda; and

- (b) the reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

s. 46A (7), LGOIMA

Items not on the agenda may be brought before the meeting through a report from either the chief executive or the Chairperson.

Please note that nothing in this standing order removes the requirement to meet the provisions of Part 6, LGA 2002.

9.13 Discussion of minor matters not on the agenda

A meeting may discuss an item that is not on the agenda only if it is a minor matter relating to the general business of the meeting and the Chairperson explains at the beginning of the public part of the meeting that the item will be discussed. However, the meeting may not make a resolution, decision or recommendation about the item, except to refer it to a subsequent meeting for further discussion.

s. 46A (7A), LGOIMA.

9.14 Public excluded business on the agenda

Items that are likely to be discussed under public excluded must be indicated on each agenda and state the general subject of the item. The chief executive, however, may exclude public access to any reports, or parts of reports, which are reasonably expected to be discussed when the public is excluded.

s. 46A (9), LGOIMA.

9.15 Qualified privilege relating to agenda and minutes

Where any meeting of the community board is open to the public and a member of the public is supplied with a copy of the agenda or the minutes of that meeting the publication of any defamatory matter included in the agenda or in the minutes is privileged, unless the publication is proved to have been made with ill will or taking improper advantage of the publication.

s. 52, LGOIMA.

Meeting Procedures

Opening and closing

At the start of a meeting a community board may choose to recognise the civic importance of the occasion through some form of reflection. This could be an expression of community values, a reminder of the contribution of members who have gone before or a formal welcome, such as a mihi whakatau. Options for opening a meeting could include a karakia timitanga, mihi whakatau, or powhiri as well as a karakia whakamutunga to close a meeting where appropriate.

10. Quorum

10.1 Councils

The quorum for a meeting of the community board is:

- (a) half of the members physically present, where the number of members (including vacancies) is even; and
- (b) a majority of the members physically present, where the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

cl. 23 (3)(a) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

10.2 Committees and subcommittees

A community board sets the quorum for its committees and subcommittees, either by resolution or by stating the quorum in the terms of reference. Committees may set the quorums for their subcommittees by resolution provided that it is not less than two members - in the case of subcommittees if a quorum is not stated then the quorum will be two members.

In the case of committees (other than subcommittees) at least one member of the quorum must be a member of the community board.

cl. 23 (3)(b) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

10.3 Joint Committees

The quorum at a meeting of a joint committee must be consistent with Standing Order 10.1. Local authorities participating in the joint committee may decide, by agreement, whether or not the quorum includes one or more members appointed by each community board or any party.

cl. 30A (6)(c) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

10.4 Requirement for a quorum

A meeting is constituted where a quorum of members is present, whether or not they are all voting or entitled to vote. In order to conduct any business at a meeting a quorum of members must be present for the whole time that the business is being considered.

cl. 23(1) & (2) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

10.5 Meeting lapses where no quorum

A meeting must lapse, and the Chairperson vacates the chair, if a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the advertised start of the meeting. The Chairperson has discretion to wait for a quorum for a longer period in situations where members are known to be travelling to the meeting, but are delayed due to extraordinary circumstances.

No business may be conducted while waiting for the quorum to be reached. Where a meeting lapses because there is no quorum, this will be recorded in the minutes, along with the names of the members who attended.

10.6 Business from lapsed meetings

Where a meeting lapses the remaining business will be adjourned to be the first items on the agenda for the next ordinary meeting, unless the Chairperson sets an earlier meeting and this is notified by the chief executive.

11. Public access and recording

11.1 Meetings open to the public

Except as otherwise provided by Part 7 of LGOIMA, every meeting of the community board, and its committees and subcommittees, must be open to the public.

s.47 & 49(a), LGOIMA.

11.2 Grounds for removing the public

The Chairperson may require any member of the public whose conduct is disorderly, or who is creating a disturbance, to be removed from the meeting.

11.3 Community board may record meetings

Meeting venues should contain clear signage indicating and informing members, officers and the public that proceedings may be recorded by the community board and may be subject to direction by the Chairperson.

11.4 Public may record meetings

Members of the public may record meetings which are open to the public. Any recording of meetings must be notified to the Chairperson at the commencement of the meeting to ensure that the recording does not distract the meeting from fulfilling its business.

Where circumstances require the Chairperson may stop the recording for a period of time.

12. Attendance

12.1 Members right to attend meetings

A member of a community board has, unless lawfully excluded, the right to attend any meeting of any committees or subcommittees established by the board. They may, with the leave of the Chairperson, take part in the meeting's discussions, however, if the member of the community board is not an appointed member of the committee they may not vote on any matter before the committee.

A community board member attending a meeting of a committee or subcommittee of which they are not an appointed member is not a member of the public for the purpose of s.48 LGOIMA. If the community board resolves to exclude the public any members who are not appointed to those bodies may remain unless they are lawfully excluded.

cl. 19(2), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

12.2 Attendance when a committee is performing judicial or quasi-judicial functions

If a committee of a community board is performing judicial or quasi-judicial functions members of the board who are not members of the committee are not entitled to take part in the proceedings.

12.3 Leave of absence

The community board may grant a member leave of absence. Members must apply for such leave.

The community board may delegate the power to grant leave of absence to the Chairperson in order to protect a members' privacy. The Chairperson will advise all community board members whenever a member has leave of absence granted under delegated authority. Meeting minutes will record that a member has leave of absence as an apology for that meeting.

12.4 Apologies

A member who does not have leave of absence may tender an apology should they be absent from all or part of a meeting. The Chairperson must invite apologies at the beginning of each meeting, including apologies for lateness and early departure. The meeting may accept or decline any apologies. For clarification, the acceptance of a member's apology constitutes a grant of leave of absence for that meeting.

12.5 Recording apologies

The minutes will record any apologies tendered before or during the meeting, including whether they were accepted or declined and the time of arrival and departure of all members.

12.6 Absence without leave

Where a member is absent, without leave of absence from the community board, from four consecutive meetings (other than extraordinary meetings) then the office held by the member will become vacant. A vacancy created in this way is treated as an extraordinary vacancy.

cl. 5 (d) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

12.7 Right to attend by audio or audio visual link

Provided the conditions in these standing orders are met members of the community board have the right to attend meetings by means of an electronic link, unless they have been lawfully excluded.

12.8 Member's status: quorum

Members who attend meetings by electronic link will not be counted as present for the purposes of a quorum.

12.9 Member's status: voting

Where a meeting has a quorum, determined by the number physically present, the members attending by electronic link can vote on any matters raised at the meeting.

12.10 Chairperson's duties

Where the technology is available and a member is attending a meeting by audio or audio-visual link, the Chairperson must ensure that:

- (a) the technology for the link is available and of suitable quality;
- (b) procedures for using the technology in the meeting will ensure that:
 - i. everyone participating in the meeting can hear each other;
 - ii. the member's attendance by audio or audio visual link does not reduce their accountability or accessibility of that person in relation to the meeting;
 - iii. the requirements of Part 7 of LGOIMA are met; and
 - iv. the requirements in these standing orders are met.

If the Chairperson is attending by audio or audio visual link then chairing duties will be undertaken by the deputy chair or a member who is physically present.

cl. 25A (3) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

12.11 Conditions for attending by audio or audio visual link

The Chairperson may give approval for a member to attend meetings by electronic link, either generally or for a specific meeting. Examples of situations where approval can be given include:

- (a) where the member is representing the community board at a place that makes their physical presence at the meeting impossible or impracticable;
- (b) where a member is unwell; and
- (c) where a member is unable to attend due to an emergency.

12.12 Request to attend by audio or audio visual link

Where possible, a member will give the Chairperson and the chief executive at least 2 working days' notice when they want to attend a meeting by audio or audio visual link. Should, due to illness or emergency, this is not be possible the member may give less notice.

Where such a request is made and the technology is available, the chief executive must take reasonable steps to enable the member to attend by audio or audio-visual link. However, the council has no obligation to make the technology for an audio or audio-visual link available.

If the member's request cannot be accommodated, or there is a technological issue with the link, this will not invalidate any acts or proceedings of the community board or its committees.

12.13 Chairperson may terminate link

The Chairperson may direct that an electronic link should be terminated where:

- (a) use of the link is increasing, or may unreasonably increase, the length of the meeting;
- (b) the behaviour of the members using the link warrants termination, including the style, degree and extent of interaction between members;
- (c) it is distracting to the members who are physically present at the meeting; and
- (d) the quality of the link is no longer suitable.

12.14 Giving or showing a document

A person attending a meeting by audio or audio-visual link may give or show a document by:

- (a) transmitting it electronically;
- (b) using the audio-visual link; and
- (c) any other manner that the Chairperson thinks fit.

cl. 25(A) (6) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

12.15 Link failure

Where an audio or audio visual link fails, or there are other technological issues that prevent a member who is attending by link from participating in a meeting, that member must be deemed to be no longer attending the meeting.

12.16 Confidentiality

A member who is attending a meeting by audio or audio-visual link must ensure that the meeting's proceedings remain confidential during any times that the public are excluded. At such times, the Chairperson may require the member to confirm that no unauthorised people are able to view or hear the proceedings.

13. Chairperson's role in meetings

13.1 Community board

The Chairperson of the community board must preside at community board meetings unless they vacate the chair for a part or all of a meeting. If the Chairperson is absent from a meeting or vacates the chair, the deputy chair must act as Chairperson. If the deputy chair is also absent the community board members who are present must elect a member to be Chairperson at that meeting. This person may exercise the meeting responsibilities, duties and powers of the Chairperson.

cl. 26(1), (5) & (6) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

13.2 Committees

The appointed Chairperson of a community board must preside at all committee meetings unless they vacate the chair for a particular meeting or part of a meeting. If the Chairperson is absent from a meeting or vacates the chair, the deputy Chairperson (if any) will act as Chairperson. If the deputy Chairperson is also absent or has not been appointed, the committee members who are present must elect a member to act as Chairperson at that meeting who may exercise the meeting responsibilities, duties and powers of the Chairperson

cl. 26(2), (5) & (6), Schedule 7 LGA 2002.

13.3 Addressing the Chairperson

Members will address the Chairperson in a manner that the Chairperson has determined.

13.4 Chairperson's rulings

The Chairperson will decide all procedural questions where no or insufficient provision is made by these standing orders and with regard to all points of order. Any refusal to obey a Chairperson's ruling or order constitutes contempt.

13.5 Chairperson standing

Whenever the Chairperson stands during a debate members are required to sit down and be silent so that they can hear the Chairperson without interruption.

13.6 Member's right to speak

Members are entitled to speak in accordance with these standing orders. Members should address the Chairperson when speaking. They may not leave their place while speaking, unless they have the leave of the Chairperson.

13.7 Chairperson may prioritise speakers

When two or more members want to speak the Chairperson will name the member who may speak first. Other members who wish to speak have precedence where they intend to:

- (a) raise a point of order, including a request to obtain a time extension for the previous speaker, and/or
- (b) move a motion to terminate or adjourn the debate, and/or
- (c) make a point of explanation, and/or
- (d) request the chair to permit the member a special request.

14. Public Forums

Public forums are a defined period of time, usually at the start of a meeting, which is put aside for the purpose of public input. Public forums are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters to the attention of the community board. Any issue, proposal or matter raised in a public forum must also fall within the terms of reference of that meeting.

14.1 Time limits

A period of up to 30 minutes, or such longer time as the community board may determine, will be available for the public forum at each scheduled community board meeting. Requests must be made to the meeting secretary at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the Chairperson.

Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes. No more than two speakers can speak on behalf of an organisation during a public forum. Where the number of speakers presenting in the public forum exceeds 6, in total, the Chairperson has discretion to restrict the speaking time permitted for all presenters.

14.2 Restrictions

The Chairperson has the discretion to decline to hear a speaker or to terminate a presentation at any time where:

- a speaker is repeating views presented by an earlier speaker at the same public forum;
- the speaker is criticising elected members and/or staff;

- the speaker is being repetitious, disrespectful or offensive;
- the speaker has previously spoken on the same issue;
- the matter is subject to legal proceedings;
- the matter is subject to a hearing, including the hearing of submissions where the community board or committee sits in a quasi-judicial capacity.

14.3 Questions at public forums

At the conclusion of the presentation, with the permission of the Chairperson, elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by a speaker.

14.4 No resolutions

Following the public forum no debate or decisions will be made at the meeting on issues raised during the forum unless related to items already on the agenda.

15. Deputations

The purpose of a deputation is to enable a person, group or organisation to make a presentation to a meeting on a matter or matters covered by that meeting's terms of reference. Deputations are approved by the Chairperson or an official with delegated authority.

15.1 Time limits

Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes. No more than two speakers can speak on behalf of an organisation's deputation.

15.2 Restrictions

The Chairperson has the discretion to decline to hear or terminate a deputation at any time where:

- a speaker is repeating views presented by an earlier speaker at the meeting;
- the speaker is criticising elected members and/or staff;
- the speaker is being repetitious, disrespectful or offensive;
- the speaker has previously spoken on the same issue;
- the matter is subject to legal proceedings;
- the matter is subject to a hearing, including the hearing of submissions where the community board or committee sits in a quasi-judicial capacity.

15.3 Questions of a deputation

At the conclusion of the deputation, with the permission of the Chairperson, elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the deputation.

15.4 Resolutions

Any debate on a matter raised in a deputation must occur at the time at which the matter is scheduled to be discussed on the meeting agenda and once a motion has been moved and seconded.

16. Petitions

16.1 Form of petitions

Petitions may be presented to the community board. Petitions must contain at least 20 signatures and consist of fewer than 150 words (not including signatories). They must be received by the chief executive at least 5 working days before the date of the meeting at which they will be presented.

Petitions must not be disrespectful, use offensive language or include malicious statements (see standing order 19.9 qualified privilege). They may be written in English or te reo Māori. Petitioners planning to make a petition in te reo Māori or sign language should advise the relevant Chairperson at least two working days before the meeting to enable the petition be translated and reprinted, if necessary.

16.2 Petition presented by petitioner

A petitioner, who presents a petition to the community board, may speak for 5 minutes (excluding questions) about the petition, unless the meeting resolves otherwise. The Chairperson must terminate the presentation of the petition if he or she believes the petitioner is being disrespectful, offensive or making malicious statements.

Where a petition is presented as part of a deputation or public forum, the speaking time limits relating to deputations or public forums shall apply. The petition must be received by the chief executive at least 5 working days before the date of the meeting concerned.

16.3 Petition presented by member

Members may present petitions on behalf of petitioners. In doing so, members must confine themselves to reading:

- (a) the petition;
- (b) the petitioners' statement; and
- (c) the number of signatures.

17. Exclusion of public

17.1 Motions and resolutions to exclude the public

Members taking part in a meeting may resolve to exclude the public from that meeting. The grounds for exclusion are those specified in section 48 of LGOIMA (see Appendix 1).

Every motion to exclude the public must be put while the meeting is open to the public, and copies of the motion must be made available to any member of the public who is present. If the motion is passed the resolution to exclude the public must be in the form set out in schedule 2A of LGOIMA (see Appendix 2). The resolution must state:

- (a) the general subject of each matter to be excluded;
- (b) the reason for passing the resolution in relation to that matter; and
- (c) the grounds on which the resolution is based.

The resolution will form part of the meeting's minutes.

s. 48 LGOIMA.

17.2 Specified people may remain

Where a meeting resolves to exclude the public, the resolution may provide for specified persons to remain if, in the opinion of the meeting, they will assist the meeting to achieve its purpose. Any such resolution must state, in relation to the matter to be discussed, how the knowledge held by the specified people is relevant and be of assistance.

No such resolution is needed for people who are entitled to be at the meeting, such as relevant staff and officials contracted to the council for advice on the matter under consideration.

s.48 (6) LGOIMA.

17.3 Public excluded items

The chief executive must place in the public-excluded section of the agenda any items that he or she reasonably expects the meeting to consider with the public excluded. The public excluded section of the agenda must indicate the subject matter of the item and the reason the public are excluded.

s.46A (8) LGOIMA

17.4 Non-disclosure of information

No member or officer may disclose to any person, other than another member, officer or person authorised by the chief executive, any information that has been, or will be, presented to any meeting from which the public is excluded, or proposed to be excluded.

This restriction does not apply where a meeting has resolved to make the information publicly available or where the chief executive has advised, in writing, that one or both of the following apply:

- (a) there are no grounds under LGOIMA for withholding the information;
- (b) the information is no longer confidential.

17.5 Release of information from public excluded session

A community board may provide for the release to the public of information which has been considered during the public excluded part of a meeting.

Each public excluded meeting must consider and agree by resolution, what, if any, information will be released to the public. In addition the chief executive may release information, which has been considered at a meeting from which the public has been excluded; where it is determined the grounds to withhold any information no longer exist. The chief executive will inform the subsequent meeting of the information released.

18. Voting

18.1 Decisions by majority vote

Unless otherwise provided for in the LGA 2002, other legislation, or standing orders, the acts of, and questions before, a community board must be decided at a meeting through a vote exercised by the majority of the members of that meeting voting.

cl. 24(1), Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

18.2 Open voting

An act or question coming before the community board must be done or decided by open voting.

cl. 24(3) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

18.3 Chairperson has a casting vote

The Chairperson or any other person presiding at the meeting has a deliberative vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, has a casting vote.

cl. 24(2) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

18.4 Method of voting

The method of voting must be as follows:

- (a) the Chairperson in putting the motion must call for an expression of opinion on the voices or take a show of hands, the result of either of which, as announced by the Chairperson, must be conclusive unless such announcement is questioned immediately by any member, in which event the Chairperson will call a division;
- (b) the Chairperson or any member may call for a division instead of or after voting on the voices and/or taking a show of hands; and
- (c) where a suitable electronic voting system is available, that system may be used instead of a show of hands, vote by voices or division, and the result displayed notified to the Chairperson who must declare the result.

18.5 Calling for a division

When a division is called, the chief executive must record the names of the members voting for and against the motion and abstentions and provide the names to the Chairperson to declare the result. The result of the division must be entered into the minutes and include members' names and the way in which they voted.

The Chairperson may call a second division where there is confusion or error in the original division.

18.6 Request to have votes recorded

If, immediately following a vote a member requests it, the minutes must record the member's vote or abstention.

18.7 Members may abstain

Any member may abstain from voting.

19. Conduct

19.1 Calling to order

When the Chairperson calls members to order, they must be seated and stop speaking. If the members fail to do so, the Chairperson may direct that they should leave the meeting immediately for a specified time.

19.2 Disrespect

No member may speak or act in a manner which is disrespectful of other members or inconsistent with the community board's Code of Conduct at any meeting.

19.3 Retractions and apologies

In the event of a member or speaker who has been disrespectful of another member or contravened the council's Code of Conduct, the Chairperson may call upon that member or speaker to withdraw the offending comments, and may require them to apologise. If the member refuses to do so the Chairperson may direct that they should leave the meeting immediately for a specified time and/or make a complaint under the Code of Conduct.

19.4 Disorderly conduct

Where the conduct of a member is disorderly or is creating a disturbance the Chairperson may require that member to leave the meeting immediately for a specified time.

If the disorder continues the Chairperson may adjourn the meeting for a specified time. At the end of this time the meeting must resume and decide, without debate, whether the meeting should proceed or be adjourned.

The Chairperson may also adjourn the meeting if other people cause disorder or in the event of an emergency.

19.5 Contempt

Where a member is subject to repeated cautions for disorderly conduct by the Chairperson, the meeting may, should it so decide, resolve that the member is in contempt. Any such resolution must be recorded in the meeting's minutes.

19.6 Removal from meeting

A member of the police or authorised security personnel may, at the Chairperson's request, remove or exclude a member from a meeting.

This standing order will apply where the Chairperson has ruled that the member should leave the meeting and the member has refused or failed to do so; or has left the meeting and attempted to re-enter it without the Chairperson's permission.

19.7 Financial conflicts of interests

Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect financial interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.

No member may vote on, or take part in, a discussion about any matter in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest unless an exception set out in s.6 LAMIA applies to them, or the Auditor-General has granted them an exemption or declaration under s.6.

Members with a financial interest should physically withdraw themselves from the table unless the meeting is in public excluded in which case they should leave the room.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a financial interest in the matter being discussed. The minutes must record any declarations of financial interests and the member's abstention from any discussion and voting on the matter.

s. 6 & 7 LAMIA.

19.8 Non-financial conflicts of interests

Non-financial interests always involve questions of judgement and degree about whether the responsibility of a member of a community board could be affected by some other separate interest or duty of that member in relation to a particular matter. If a member considers that they have a non-financial conflict of interest in a matter they must not take part in the discussions about that matter or any subsequent vote.

The member must leave the table when the matter is considered, but does not need to leave the room. The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a non-financial interest in the matter being discussed.

19.9 Qualified privilege for meeting proceedings

Any oral statement made at any meeting of the community board in accordance with the rules adopted by the community board for guiding its proceedings is privileged, unless the statement is proved to have been made with ill will or took improper advantage of the occasion of publication.

s. 53, LGOIMA.

19.10 Qualified privilege additional to any other provisions

The privilege referred to above is in addition to any other privilege, whether absolute or qualified, that applies as a result of any other enactment or rule of law applying to any meeting of the community board.

s. 53, LGOIMA.

19.11 Electronic devices at meetings

Electronic devices and phones can only be used to advance the business of a meeting. Personal use may only occur at the discretion of the chair. A Chairperson may require that an electronic device is switched off if its use is likely to distract a meeting from achieving its business or a member is found to be receiving information or advice from sources not present at the meeting which may affect the integrity of the proceedings.

20. General rules of debate

20.1 Chairperson may exercise discretion

The application of any procedural matters in this section of the Standing Orders, such as the number of times a member may speak, is subject to the discretion of the Chairperson.

20.2 Time limits on speakers

The following time limits apply to members speaking at meetings:

- (a) movers of motions when speaking to the motion – not more than 10 minutes;
- (b) movers of motions when exercising their right of reply – not more than 5 minutes;
- (c) other members – not more than 5 minutes.

Time limits can be extended if a motion to that effect is moved, seconded and supported by a majority of members present.

20.3 Questions to staff

During a debate members can ask staff questions about the matters being discussed. Questions must be asked through the Chairperson and are at the Chairperson's discretion as to how the question should be dealt with.

20.4 Questions of clarification

At any point of a debate a member may ask the Chairperson for clarification about the nature and content of the motion which is the subject of the debate and the particular stage the debate has reached.

20.5 Members may speak only once

A member may not speak more than once to a motion at a meeting of a community board except with permission of the Chairperson.

20.6 Limits on number of speakers

If three speakers have spoken consecutively in support of, or in opposition to, a motion, the Chairperson may call for a speaker to the contrary. If there is no speaker to the contrary, the Chairperson must put the motion after the mover's right of reply.

Members speaking must, if requested by the Chairperson, announce whether they are speaking in support of or opposition to a motion.

20.7 Secunder may reserve speech

A member may second a motion or amendment without speaking to it, reserving the right to speak later in the debate.

20.8 Speaking only to relevant matters

Members may speak to any matter before the meeting; a motion or amendment which they propose; and to raise a point of order arising out of debate, but not otherwise. Members must confine their remarks strictly to the motion or amendment they are speaking to.

The Chairperson's rulings on any matters arising under this standing order are final and not open to challenge.

20.9 Restating motion

A member, at any time during a debate for their information, may ask that the Chairperson restate a motion and any amendments, but not so as to interrupt a speaker.

20.10 Criticism of resolutions

A member speaking in a debate may not unduly criticise the validity of any resolution except by a notice of motion to amend or revoke the resolution.

20.11 Objecting to words

When a member objects to any words used by another member in a speech and wants the minutes to record their objection, they must object at the time when the words are used and before any other member has spoken. The Chairperson must order the minutes to record the objection.

20.12 Right of reply

The mover of an original motion has a right of reply. A mover of an amendment to the original motion does not. In their reply, the mover must confine themselves to answering previous speakers and not introduce any new matters.

A mover's right of reply can only be used once. It can be exercised either at the end of the debate on the original, substantive or substituted motion or at the end of the debate on a proposed amendment.

However, the original mover may reserve their right of reply and speak once to an original motion and once to each amendment without losing that right of reply. If a closure motion is carried the mover of the motion has the right of reply before the motion or amendment is put to the vote.

20.13 No other member may speak

In exercising a right of reply, no other member may speak:

- (a) after the mover has started their reply;
- (b) after the mover has indicated that they want to forego this right;
- (c) where the mover has spoken to an amendment to the original motion and the Chairperson has indicated that he or she intends to put the motion.

20.14 Adjournment motions

The carrying of any motion to adjourn a meeting must supersede other business still remaining to be disposed of. Any such business must be considered at the next meeting. Business referred to, or referred back to, a specified committee or local or community board, is to be considered at the next ordinary meeting of that committee or board, unless otherwise specified.

20.15 Chairperson's acceptance of closure motions

The Chairperson may only accept a closure motion where there have been at least two speakers for and two speakers against the motion that is proposed to be closed, or the Chairperson considers it reasonable to do so.

However, the Chairperson must put a closure motion if there are no further speakers in the debate. When the meeting is debating an amendment, the closure motion relates to the amendment. If a closure motion is carried, the mover of the motion under debate has the right of reply after which the Chairperson puts the motion or amendment to the vote.

21. General procedures for speaking and moving motions

21.1 Options for speaking and moving

This subsection provides three options for speaking and moving motions and amendments at a meeting of a community board. Option A applies unless, on the recommendation of the

chairperson at the beginning of a meeting, the meeting resolves [by simple majority] to adopt either Option B or Option C for the meeting generally, or for any specified items on the agenda.

21.2 Option A

- The mover and seconder of a motion cannot move or second an amendment. (This does not apply when the mover or seconder of a motion to adopt a report of a committee wants to amend an item in the report. In this case the original mover or seconder may also propose or second the suggested amendment).
- Only members who have not spoken to the original or substituted motion may move or second an amendment to it.
- The mover or seconder of an amendment whether it is carried or lost cannot move or second a subsequent amendment.
- Members can speak to any amendment and, provided they have not spoken to the motion or moved or seconded an amendment, they can move or second further amendments.
- The meeting by agreement of the majority of members present may amend a motion with the agreement of the mover and seconder.

21.3 Option B

- The mover and seconder of a motion cannot move or second an amendment. (This does not apply when the mover or seconder of a motion to adopt a report of a committee wants to amend an item in the report. In this case the original mover or seconder may also propose or second the suggested amendment).
- Any members, regardless of whether they have spoken to the original or substituted motion, may move or second an amendment to it.
- The mover or seconder of an amendment that is carried can move or second a subsequent amendment. A mover or seconder of an amendment which is lost cannot move or second a subsequent amendment.
- Members can speak to any amendment and, provided they have not spoken to the motion or moved or seconded an amendment, they can move or second further amendments.
- The meeting by agreement of the majority of members present may amend a motion with the agreement of the mover and seconder

21.4 Option C

- The mover and seconder of a motion can move or second an amendment
- Any members, regardless of whether they have spoken to the original or substituted motion, may move or second an amendment to it.
- The mover or seconder of an amendment whether it is carried or lost can move or second further amendments.
- Members can speak to any amendment.

- The meeting by agreement of the majority of members present may amend a motion with the agreement of the mover and seconder.

21.5 Procedure if no resolution is reached

If no resolution is reached the Chair may accept a new motion to progress the matter under discussion.

22. Motions and amendments

22.1 Proposing and seconding motions

All motions and amendments moved during a debate must be seconded (including notices of motion). The Chairperson may then state the motion and propose it for discussion.

Amendments and motions that are not seconded are not in order and are not entered in the minutes.

22.2 Motions in writing

The Chairperson may require movers of motions and amendments to provide them in writing, signed by the mover.

22.3 Motions expressed in parts

The Chairperson, or any member, can require a motion that has been expressed in parts to be decided part by part.

22.4 Substituted motion

Where a motion is subject to an amendment, the meeting may substitute the motion with the amendment, provided the mover and seconder of the original motion agree to its withdrawal. All members may speak to the substituted motion.

22.5 Amendments to be relevant and not direct negatives

Every proposed amendment must be relevant to the motion under discussion. Proposed amendments cannot be similar to an amendment that has already been lost. Any amendment which, if carried, would have the effect of defeating a previous motion that was carried is a direct negative and is therefore not allowed.

22.6 Foreshadowed amendments

The meeting must dispose of an existing amendment before a new amendment can be foreshadowed. However, members may notify the Chairperson that they intend to move further amendments and the nature of their content.

22.7 Lost amendments

Where an amendment is lost, the meeting will resume the debate on the original or substituted motion. Any member who has not spoken to that motion may speak to it, and may move or second a further amendment.

22.8 Carried amendments

Where an amendment is carried the meeting will resume the debate on the original motion as amended. This will now be referred to as the substantive motion. Members who have not spoken to the original motion may speak to the substantive motion, and may move or second a further amendment to it.

22.9 Where a motion is lost

In a situation where a motion that recommends a course of action is lost a new motion to provide direction might be proposed, with the consent of the Chairperson.

22.10 Withdrawal of motions and amendments

Once a motion or amendment which has been seconded has been put to the meeting by the Chairperson the mover cannot withdraw it without the consent of the majority of the members who are present and voting.

The mover of an original motion, which has been subject to an amendment that has been moved and seconded, cannot withdraw the original motion until the amendment has either been lost or withdrawn by agreement, as above.

22.11 No speakers after reply or motion has been put

A member may not speak to any motion once:

- (a) the mover has started their right of reply in relation to the motion; and
- (b) the Chairperson has started putting the motion.

23. Revocation or alteration of resolutions

23.1 Member may move revocation of a decision

A member may give the chief executive a notice of motion for the revocation or alteration of all or part of a previous resolution of the council, subordinate body, local or community board. The notice must set out:

- (a) The resolution or part of the resolution which the member proposes to revoke or alter;
- (b) The meeting date when the resolution was passed;
- (c) The motion, if any, which the member proposes to replace it with; and
- (d) Sufficient information as to satisfy the decision-making provisions of sections 77-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

If the mover of the notice of motion is unable to provide this information, or the decision is likely to be deemed a significant decision, the notice of motion should provide that the proposal is referred to the chief executive for consideration and report.

23.2 Revocation must be made by body responsible for the decision

If a resolution is made under delegated authority by a committee only that body may revoke or amend the resolution, assuming the resolution is legally made.

This provision does not prevent the body that made the delegation from removing or amending a delegation given to a subordinate body or local board or community board.

23.3 Requirement to give notice

A member must give notice to the chief executive at least 5 working days before the meeting at which it is proposed to consider such a motion and is to be signed by not less than one third of the members of the community board, including vacancies. Notice can be sent via email and include the scanned electronic signatures of members. If the notice of motion is lost, no similar notice of motion which is substantially the same in purpose and effect may be accepted within the next twelve months.

23.4 Restrictions on actions under the affected resolution

Once a notice of motion to revoke or alter a previous resolution has been received no irreversible action may be taken under the resolution in question until the proposed notice of motion has been dealt with. Exceptions apply where, in the opinion of the Chairperson:

- (a) the practical effect of delaying actions under the resolution would be the same as if the resolution had been revoked;
- (b) by reason of repetitive notices, the effect of the notice is an attempt by a minority to frustrate the will of the community board or the committee that made the previous resolution.

In either of these situations, action may be taken under the resolution as though no notice of motion had been given to the chief executive.

23.5 Revocation or alteration by resolution at same meeting

A meeting may revoke or alter a previous resolution made at the same meeting where, during the course of the meeting, it receives fresh facts or information concerning the resolution. In this situation, 75 per cent of the members present and voting must agree to the revocation or alteration.

23.6 Revocation or alteration by recommendation in report

19.12 A Financial conflicts of interests

Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect financial interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.

No member may vote on, or take part in, a discussion about any matter in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest unless an exception set out in s.6 LAMIA applies to them, or the Auditor-General has granted them an exemption or declaration under s.6.

Members with a financial interest should physically withdraw themselves from the table unless the meeting is in public excluded in which case they should leave the room.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a financial interest in the matter being discussed. The minutes must record any declarations of financial interests and the member's abstention from any discussion and voting on the matter.

s. 6 & 7 LAMIA.

19.13 Non-financial conflicts of interests

Non-financial interests always involve questions of judgement and degree about whether the responsibility of a member of a community board could be affected by some other separate interest or duty of that member in relation to a particular matter. If a member considers that they have a non-financial conflict of interest in a matter they must not take part in the discussions about that matter or any subsequent vote.

The member must leave the table when the matter is considered, but does not need to leave the room. The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a non-financial interest in the matter being discussed.

A community board may, on a recommendation in a report by the Chairperson or chief executive, or the report of any committee or subcommittee, revoke or alter all or part of a resolution passed by a previous meeting. The chief executive must give at least two clear working days' notice of any meeting that will consider such a revocation or alteration recommendation.

cl. 30(6) Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

24. Procedural motions

24.1 Procedural motions must be taken immediately

A procedural motion to close or adjourn a debate will take precedence over other business, other than points of order and rights of reply. If the procedural motion is seconded the Chairperson must put it to the vote immediately, without discussion or debate.

24.2 Procedural motions to close or adjourn a debate

Any member who has not spoken on the matter under debate may move any one of the following procedural motions to close or adjourn a debate:

- (a) that the meeting be adjourned to the next ordinary meeting (unless the member states an alternative time and place);

- (b) that the motion under debate should now be put (a closure motion);
- (c) that the item being discussed should be adjourned to a specified time and place and not be further discussed at the meeting;
- (d) that the item of business being discussed should lie on the table and not be further discussed at this meeting;
- (e) that the item being discussed should be referred (or referred back) to the relevant committee.

A member seeking to move a procedural motion must not interrupt another member who is already speaking.

24.3 Voting on procedural motions

Procedural motions to close or adjourn debate must be decided by a majority of all members who are present and voting. If the motion is lost, no member may move a further procedural motion to close or adjourn the debate within the next 15 minutes.

24.4 Debate on adjourned items

When debate resumes on items of business that have been previously adjourned all members are entitled to speak on the items.

24.5 Remaining business at adjourned meetings

Where a resolution is made to adjourn a meeting, the remaining business will be considered at the next meeting.

24.6 Business referred to a committee

Where an item of business is referred (or referred back) to a committee the committee will consider it at its next meeting, unless the meeting resolves otherwise.

24.7 Other types of procedural motions

The Chairperson has discretion about whether to allow any other procedural motion that is not contained in these standing orders.

25. Points of order

25.1 Members may raise points of order

Any member may raise a point of order when they believe these standing orders have been breached. When a point of order is raised, the member who was previously speaking must stop speaking and sit down (if standing).

25.2 Subjects for points of order

A member who is raising a point of order must state precisely what its subject is. Points of order may be raised for the following subjects:

- (a) disorder – bringing disorder to the attention of the Chairperson;
- (b) language – use of disrespectful, offensive or malicious language;
- (c) irrelevance – the topic being discussed is not the matter currently before the meeting;
- (d) misrepresentation – misrepresentation of any statement made by a member or by an officer or council employee;
- (e) breach of standing order – the breach of any standing order while also specifying which standing order is subject to the breach;
- (f) request the recording of words, such as a request that the minutes record words that have been the subject of an objection.

25.3 Contradictions

Expressing a difference of opinion or contradicting a statement by a previous speaker does not constitute a point of order.

25.4 Point of order during division

A member may not raise a point of order during a division, except with the permission of the Chairperson.

25.5 Chairperson's decision on points of order

The Chairperson may decide a point of order immediately after it has been raised, or may choose to hear further argument about the point before deciding. The Chairperson's ruling on any point of order, and any explanation of that ruling, is not open to any discussion and is final.

26. Notices of motion

26.1 Notice of intended motion to be in writing

Notice of intended motions must be in writing signed by the mover, stating the meeting at which it is proposed that the intended motion be considered, and must be delivered to the chief executive at least 5 clear working days before such meeting. [Notice of an intended motion can be sent via email and include the scanned electronic signature of the mover.]

Once the motion is received the chief executive must give members notice in writing of the intended motion at least 2 clear working days' notice of the date of the meeting at which it will be considered.

26.2 Refusal of notice of motion

The Chairperson may direct the chief executive to refuse to accept any notice of motion which:

- (a) is disrespectful or which contains offensive language or statements made with malice; or
- (b) is not related to the role or functions of the community board or meeting concerned; or
- (c) contains an ambiguity or a statement of fact or opinion which cannot properly form part of an effective resolution, and where the mover has declined to comply with such requirements as the chief executive officer may make; or
- (d) is concerned with matters which are already the subject of reports or recommendations from a committee to the meeting concerned
- (e) fails to include sufficient information as to satisfy the decision-making provisions of s.77-82 of the LGA 2002; or
- (f) concerns a matter where decision-making authority has been delegated to a committee or subcommittee.

Reasons for refusing a notice of motion should be provided to the mover. Where the refusal is due to (f) the notice of motion may be referred to the appropriate committee or board.

26.3 Mover of notice of motion

Notices of motion may not proceed in the absence of the mover unless moved by another member authorised to do so, in writing, by the mover.

26.4 Alteration of notice of motion

Only the mover, at the time the notice of motion is moved and with the agreement of a majority of those present at the meeting, may alter a proposed notice of motion. Once moved and seconded no amendments may be made to a Notice of Motion.

26.5 When notices of motion lapses

Notices of motion that are not put when called by the Chairperson must lapse.

26.6 Referral of notices of motion

Any notice of motion received that refers to a matter ordinarily dealt with by a committee of the community board must be referred to that committee by the chief executive.

Where notices are referred the proposer of the intended motion, if not a member of that committee, must have the right to move that motion and have the right of reply, as if a committee member.

26.7 Repeat notices of motion

When a motion has been considered and rejected by the community board, no similar notice of motion which, in the opinion of the Chairperson, may be accepted within the next 12 months, unless signed by not less than one third of all members, including vacancies.

Where a notice of motion has been adopted by the communities board no other notice of motion which, in the opinion of the Chairperson has the same effect, may be put while the original motion stands.

27. Minutes

27.1 Minutes to be evidence of proceedings

The community board and any committees and subcommittees must keep minutes of their proceedings. These minutes must be kept in hard copy, signed and included in the council's minute book and, when confirmed by resolution at a subsequent meeting and signed by the Chairperson, will be prima facie evidence of the proceedings they relate to.

cl. 28 Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

27.2 Matters recorded in minutes

The chief executive must keep the minutes of meetings. The minutes must record:

- (a) the date, time and venue of the meeting
- (b) the names of the members present
- (c) the Chairperson
- (d) any apologies or leaves of absences
- (e) the arrival and departure times of members
- (f) any failure of a quorum
- (g) a list of any external speakers and the topics they addressed
- (h) a list of the items considered
- (i) the resolutions and amendments related to those items including those that were lost, provided they had been moved and seconded in accordance with these standing orders
- (j) the names of all movers, and seconders
- (k) any objections made to words used
- (l) all divisions taken and, if taken, a record of each members' vote
- (m) the names of any members requesting that votes or abstentions be recorded
- (n) any declarations of financial interest or conflicts of interest
- (o) the contempt, censure and removal of any members
- (p) any resolutions to exclude members of the public
- (q) the time at which the meeting concludes or adjourns
- (r) the names of people permitted to stay in public excluded.

Please Note: hearings under the RMA, Dog Control Act 1996 and Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 may have special requirements for minute taking.

27.3 No discussion on minutes

The only topic that may be discussed at a subsequent meeting, with respect to the minutes, is their correctness.

27.4 Minutes of last meeting before election

The chief executive and the relevant Chairpersons must sign the minutes of the last meeting of the community board and its committees or subcommittees before the next election of members.

28. Minute books

28.1 Inspection

A hard copy of the community board's minute books must be kept by the chief executive and be open for inspection by the public. This does not preclude the complementary use of electronic minutes in accordance with the Electronics Transactions Act.

s. 51 LGOIMA.

28.2 Inspection of public excluded matters

The chief executive must consider any request for the minutes of a meeting or part of a meeting from which the public was excluded as a request for official information in terms of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Referenced documents

- Commissions of Inquiry Act 1908
- Control and Sale of Alcohol Act 2012
- Crimes Act 1961
- Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013
- Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 (LAMIA)
- Local Electoral Act 2001 (LEA)
- Local Government Act 1974 and 2002 (LGA)
- Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA)
- Marine Farming Act 1971
- Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
- Secret Commissions Act 1910
- Securities Act 1978.

Appendix 1: Grounds to exclude the public

A community board may, by resolution, exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on one or more of the following grounds:

- A1** That good reason exists for excluding the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting as the public disclosure of information would be likely:
- (a) to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial; or
 - (b) to endanger the safety of any person.
- A2** That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to:
- (a) Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons; or
 - (b) Protect information where the making available of the information would:
 - i. disclose a trade secret; or
 - ii. be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; or,
 - (c) In the case only of an application for a resource consent, or water conservation order, or a requirement for a designation or heritage order, under the Resource Management Act 1991, to avoid serious offence to tikanga Maori, or to avoid the disclosure of the location of waahi tapu; or
 - (d) Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would:
 - i. be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or
 - ii. be likely otherwise to damage the public interest; or
 - (e) Avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public; or
 - (f) Avoid prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public; or
 - (g) Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through –the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment; or
 - (h) Maintain legal professional privilege; or
 - (i) Enable any Council holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or
 - (j) Enable any Council holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations); or
 - (k) Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

Provided that where A2 of this Appendix applies the public may be excluded unless, in the circumstances of the particular case, the exclusion of the public is outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, that the public not be excluded.

- A3** That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information, the public disclosure of which would:
- (a) Be contrary to the provisions of a specified enactment; or
 - (b) Constitute contempt of Court or of the House of Representatives.
- A4** That the purpose of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is to consider a recommendation made to that Council by an Ombudsman under section 30(1) or section 38(3) of this Act (in the case of a Council named or specified in Schedule 1 to this Act).
- A5** That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the Council to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in:
- (a) Any proceedings before a Council where
 - i. A right of appeal lies to any Court or tribunal against the final decision of the Council in those proceedings; or
 - ii. The Council is required, by any enactment, to make a recommendation in respect of the matter that is the subject of those proceedings; and
 - (b) Any proceedings of a Council in relation to any application or objection under the Marine Farming Act 1971.

Appendix 2: Sample resolution to exclude the public

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- *Name of report(s)*

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1 <i>Put in name of report</i>	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)
2	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)
3	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7.	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)

4	<i>Hearings Committee</i>	<p>To enable the Committee to consider the application and submissions.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>To enable the Committee to consider the objection to fees and charges.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>To enable the Committee to.</p>	<p>That the exclusion of the public from the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to enable the Council/Committee to deliberate in private on its decision or recommendation in any proceedings where :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) a right of appeal lies to any Court or tribunal against the final decision of the Council/Committee in those proceedings; or ii) the community board is required, by any enactment, to make a recommendation in respect of the matter that is the subject of those proceedings. <p>Use (i) for the RMA hearings and (ii) for hearings under LGA such as objections to Development Contributions or hearings under the Dog Control Act s. 48(1)(d).</p>
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This resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

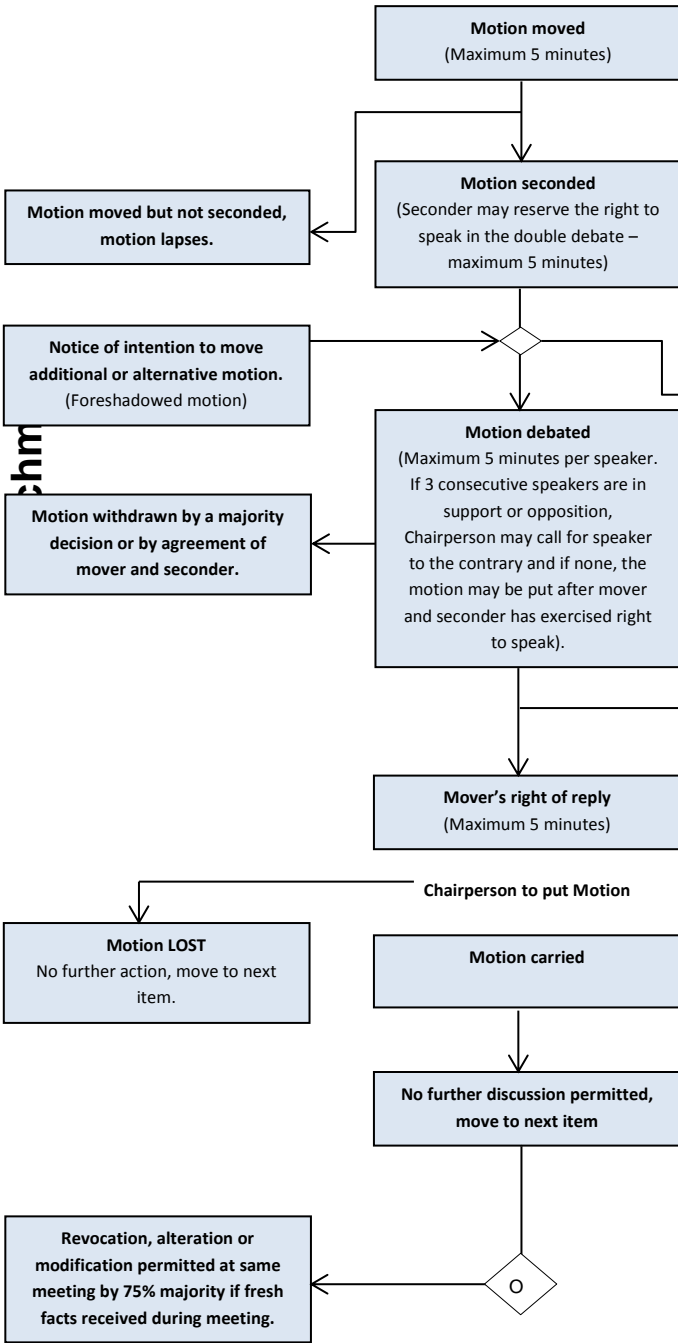
Item No	Interest
	Enable any community board holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (Schedule 7(2)(i))
	Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons (Schedule 7(2)(a))
	Maintain legal professional privilege (Schedule 7(2)(g))
	Prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage (Schedule 7(2)(j))

Item No	Interest
	Protect information where the making available of the information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) would disclose a trade secret; or (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information (Schedule 7(2)(b))
	In the case only of an application for a resource consent, or water conservation order, or a requirement for a designation or heritage order, under the Resource Management Act 1991, to avoid serious offence to Tikanga Māori, or to avoid the disclosure of the location of waahi tapu (Schedule 7(2)(ba))
	Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; or (ii) would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest (Schedule 7(2)(c))
	Avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public (Schedule 7(2)(d))
	Avoid prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public (Schedule 7(2)(e))
	Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of members or officers or employees of the Council, and persons to whom Section 2(5) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 applies in the course of their duty, from improper pressure or harassment (Schedule 7(2)(f)(ii)).
	Enable any community board holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities (Schedule 7(2)(h))

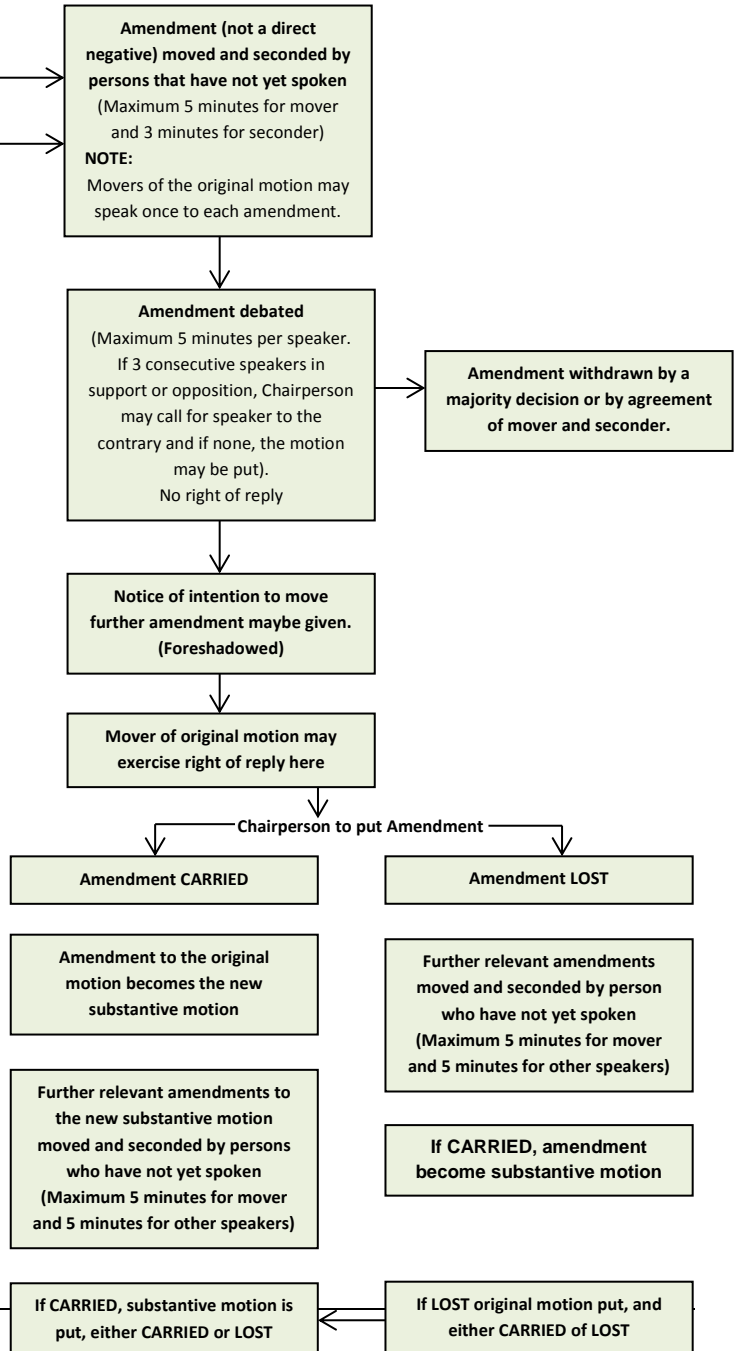
THAT XXXX be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of XXXX. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because XXXX.

Appendix 3: Motions and amendments

Motions without amendments



Motions with amendments



Appendix 4: Table of procedural motions

Motion	Has the Chair discretion to refuse this Motion?	Is seconder required?	Is discussion in order?	Are amendments in order?	Is mover of procedural motion entitled	Are previous participants in debate entitled to move this	Can a speaker be interrupted by the mover of this motion?	If lost, can motion be moved after an interval?	Position if an amendment is already before the Chair	Position if a procedural motion is already before the Chair	Remarks
(a) "That the meeting be adjourned to the next ordinary meeting, or to a stated time and place"	No	Yes	No	As to time and date only	No	No	No	Yes – 15 minutes	If carried, debate on the original motion and amendment are adjourned	If carried, debate on the original motion and procedural motion are adjourned	On resumption of debate, the mover of the adjournment speaks first. Members who have spoken in the debate may not speak again
(b) "That the motion under debate be now put (closure motion)"	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes – 15 Minutes	If carried, only the amendment is put	If carried, only the procedural motion is put	The mover of the motion under debate is entitled to exercise a right of reply before the motion or amendment under debate is put
(c) "That the item of business being discussed be adjourned to a stated time and place"	No	Yes	No	As to time and date only	No	No	NO	Yes – 15 minutes	If carried, debate on the original motion and amendment are adjourned	If carried, debate on the original motion and procedural motion are adjourned	

Motion	Has the Chair discretion to refuse this Motion?	Is seconder required?	Is discussion in order?	Are amendments in order?	Is mover of procedural motion entitled to reply?	Are previous participants in debate entitled to move this motion?	Can a speaker be interrupted by the mover of this motion?	If lost, can motion be moved after an interval?	Position if an amendment is already before the Chair	Position if a procedural motion is already before the Chair	Remarks
(d) "That the item of business being discussed does lie on the table and not be discussed at this meeting"	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes – 15 minutes	If carried, the original motion and amendment are both laid on the table	Motion not in order	
(e) "That the item of business being discussed be referred (or referred back) to the community board or to the relevant committee"	No	Yes	No	As to committee, time for reporting back etc only	No	No	No	Yes – 15 minutes	If carried, the original motion and all amendments are referred to the committee	If carried, the procedural motion is deemed disposed of	
(f) "Points of order"	No – but may rule against	No	Yes – at discretion of Chairperson	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	Point of order takes precedence	Point of order takes precedence	See standing order 3.14

Appendix 5: Webcasting protocols

The provisions are intended as a good practice guide to local authorities that are webcasting meetings or planning to do so.

1. The default shot will be on the Chairperson or a wide-angle shot of the meeting room.
2. Cameras will cover a member who is addressing the meeting. Cameras will also cover other key participants in a meeting, including staff when giving advice and members of the public when addressing the meeting during the public input time.
3. Generally interjections from other members or the public are not covered. However if the Chairperson engages with the interjector, the interjector's reaction can be filmed.
4. PowerPoint presentations, recording of votes by division and other matters displayed by overhead projector may be shown.
5. Shots unrelated to the proceedings, or not in the public interest, are not permitted.
6. If there is general disorder or a disturbance from the public gallery, coverage will revert to the Chairperson.
7. Appropriate signage will be displayed both in and outside the meeting room alerting people that the proceedings are being web cast.

Appendix 6: Powers of a Chairperson

This Appendix sets out the specific powers given to the Chairperson contained in various parts of these Standing Orders.

Chairperson to decide all questions

The Chairperson is to decide all questions where these standing orders make no provision or insufficient provision. The Chairperson's ruling is final and not open to debate.

Chairperson to decide points of order

The Chairperson is to decide any point of order and may do so immediately after it has been raised or may first hear further argument before deciding. The ruling of the Chairperson upon any point of order is not open to any discussion and is final. No point of order may be raised during a division except by permission of the Chairperson.

Items not on the agenda

Major items not on the agenda may be dealt with at that meeting if so resolved by the community board and the Chairperson explains at the meeting at a time when it is open to the public the reason why the item was not listed on the agenda and the reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

Minor matters not on the agenda relating to the general business of the community board may be discussed if the Chairperson explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at that meeting, but no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting.

Chairperson's report

The Chairperson, by report, has the right to direct the attention of the community board to any matter or subject within the role or function of the community board.

Chairperson's recommendation

The Chairperson of any meeting may include on the agenda for that meeting a Chairperson's recommendation regarding any item brought before the meeting. The purpose of such a recommendation is to focus debate on a suggested motion.

Chairperson's voting

The Chairperson at any meeting has a deliberative vote and, in the case of equality of votes, has a casting vote where standing orders make such provision.

Motion in writing

The Chairperson may require the mover of any motion or amendment to submit it in writing signed by the mover.

Motion in parts

The Chairperson may require any motion expressed in parts to be decided part by part.

Notice of motion

The Chairperson may direct the chief executive to refuse to accept any notice of motion which:

- (a) Is disrespectful or which contains offensive language or statements made with malice; or
- (b) Is not within the scope of the role or functions of the community board; or
- (c) Contains an ambiguity or statement of fact or opinion which cannot properly form part of an effective resolution, and the mover has declined to comply with such requirements as the chief executive may have made; or
- (d) Is concerned with matters which are already the subject of reports or recommendations from a committee to the meeting concerned.

Reasons for refusing a notice of motion should be provided to the proposer.

Where a notice of motion has been considered and agreed by the community board, no notice of any other motion which is, in the opinion of the Chairperson, to the same effect may be put again whilst such original motion stands.

Action on previous resolutions

If, in the opinion of the Chairperson the practical effect of a delay in taking action on a resolution which is subject to a notice of motion, would be equivalent to revocation of the resolution; or if repetitive notices of motion are considered by the Chairperson to be an attempt by a minority to frustrate the will of the meeting, action may be taken as though no such notice of motion had been given.

Repeat notice of motion

If in the opinion of the Chairperson, a notice of motion is substantially the same in purport and effect to any previous notice of motion which has been considered and rejected by the community board, no such notice of motion may be accepted within six months of consideration of the first notice of motion unless signed by not less than one third of the members of the community board, including vacancies.

Revocation or alteration of previous resolution

A Chairperson may recommend in a report to the community board the revocation or alteration of all or part of any resolution previously passed. In responding to the Chairperson's recommendation the meeting must act in accordance with these standing orders.

Chairperson may call a meeting

The Chairperson:

- (a) May call a meeting to dispose of the business to be transacted following the lapsing of a meeting due to failure of a quorum, if such business cannot be delayed until the next meeting;
- (b) May requisition an extra meeting to be held at a specified time and place, in order to conduct specified business.

Irrelevant matter and needless repetition

The Chairperson's ruling preventing members when speaking to any motion or amendment from introducing irrelevant matters or indulging in needless repetition is final and not open to challenge.

Taking down words

The Chairperson may order words used and objected to by any member, to be recorded in the minutes, provided such objection is made at the time the words are used and not after any other members have spoken.

Explanations

The Chairperson may permit members to make a personal explanation in addition to speaking to a motion, and members who have already spoken, to explain some material part of a previous speech in the same debate.

Chairperson rising

Whenever the Chairperson rises during a debate any member then speaking or offering to speak is to be seated and members are to be silent so that the Chairperson may be heard without interruption.

Members may leave places

The Chairperson may permit members to leave their place while speaking.

Priority of speakers

The Chairperson must determine the order in which members may speak when two or more members indicate their wish to speak.

Minutes

The Chairperson is to sign the minutes and proceedings of every meeting once confirmed. The Chairperson and chief executive are responsible for confirming the correctness of the minutes of the last meeting of a community board prior to the next election of members.

Questions of speakers

The Chairperson may permit members to ask questions of speakers under public forum or deputations/presentations by appointment, for the purpose of obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the speaker.

Withdrawal of offensive or malicious expressions

The Chairperson may call upon any member to withdraw any offensive or malicious expression and may require the member to apologise for the expression.

Any member who refuses to withdraw the expression or apologise, if required by the Chairperson, can be directed to withdraw from the meeting for a time specified by the Chairperson.

Chairperson's rulings

Any member who refuses to accept a ruling of the Chairperson, may be required by the Chairperson to withdraw from the meeting for a specified time.

Disorderly behaviour

The Chairperson may:

- (a) Require any member or member of the public whose conduct is disorderly or who is creating a disturbance, to withdraw immediately from the meeting for a time specified by the Chairperson.
- (b) Ask the meeting to hold in contempt, any member whose conduct is grossly disorderly and where the meeting resolves to find the member in contempt, that resolution must be recorded in the minutes.

Failure to leave meeting

If a member or member of the public who is required, in accordance with a Chairperson's ruling, to leave the meeting, refuses or fails to do so, or having left the meeting, attempts to re-enter without the permission of the Chairperson, any member of the police or officer or employee of the community board may, at the Chairperson's request, remove or exclude that person from the meeting.

Audio or audio visual attendance

Where the technology is available and a member is attending a meeting by audio or audio-visual link, the Chairperson must ensure that:

- (a) the technology for the link is available and of suitable quality
- (b) procedures for using the technology in the meeting will ensure that:
 - i. everyone participating in the meeting can hear each other
 - ii. the member's attendance by audio or audio-visual link does not reduce their accountability or accessibility in relation to the meeting
 - iii. the requirements of Part 7 of LGOIMA are met
 - iv. the requirements in these standing orders are met.

If the Chairperson is attending by audio or audio visual link then chairing duties will undertaken by the deputy chair or a member who is physically present

Appendix 7: Process for removing a Chairperson or deputy Chairperson

1. At a meeting that is in accordance with this clause, a community may remove its Chairperson or deputy Chairperson from office.
2. If a Chairperson or deputy Chairperson is removed from office at that meeting, the community board may elect a new Chairperson or deputy Chairperson at that meeting.
3. A meeting to remove a Chairperson or deputy Chairperson may be called by:
 - (a) a resolution of the community board; or
 - (b) a requisition in writing signed by the majority of the total membership of the community board (excluding vacancies).
4. A resolution or requisition must:
 - (a) specify the day, time, and place at which the meeting is to be held and the business to be considered at the meeting; and
 - (b) indicate whether or not, if the Chairperson or deputy Chairperson, is removed from office, a new Chairperson or deputy Chairperson is to be elected at the meeting if a majority of the community board (excluding vacancies) so resolves.
5. A resolution may not be made and a requisition may not be delivered less than 21 days before the day specified in the resolution or requisition for the meeting.
6. The chief executive must give each member notice in writing of the day, time, place, and business of any meeting called under this clause not less than 14 days before the day specified in the resolution or requisition for the meeting.
7. A resolution removing a Chairperson or deputy Chairperson carries if a majority of the total membership of the community board (excluding vacancies) votes in favour of the resolution.

cl. 18 Schedule 7, LGA 2002.

Appendix 8: Workshops

Definition of workshop

Workshops, however described, provide opportunities for members to discuss specific matters, receive briefings and provide guidance for officials. Workshops are not meetings and cannot be used to either make decisions or come to agreements that are then confirmed without the opportunity for meaningful debate at a formal meeting.

Application of standing orders to workshops

Standing orders do not apply to workshops and briefings. The Chairperson or workshop organisers will decide how the workshop, briefing or working party should be conducted.

Calling a workshop

Workshops, briefings and working parties may be called by:

- (a) a resolution of the community board
- (b) the community board Chairperson or
- (c) the chief executive.

Process for calling workshops

The chief executive will give at least 24 hours' notice of the time and place of the workshop and the matters to be discussed at it. Notice may be given by whatever means are reasonable in the circumstances. Any notice given must expressly:

- (a) state that the meeting is a workshop
- (b) advise the date, time and place
- (c) confirm that the meeting is primarily for the provision of information and discussion, and will not make any decisions or pass any resolutions.

Public notice of a workshop is not required and workshops can be either open to the public or public excluded.

Appendix 9: Sample order of business

Open section

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Declarations of interest
- (c) Confirmation of minutes
- (d) Leave of absence
- (e) Acknowledgements and tributes
- (f) Petitions
- (g) Public input
- (h) Local and/or community board input
- (i) Extraordinary business
- (j) Notices of motion
- (k) Reports of committees
- (l) Reports of the chief executive and staff
- (m) Chairperson and/or elected members' reports (information)

Public excluded section

- (n) Reports of committees
- (o) Reports of the chief executive and staff
- (p) Chairperson and elected members' reports (for information)

Appendix 10: Process for raising matters for a decision

Matters requiring a decision may be placed on an agenda of a meeting by a:

- report of chief executive
- report of a Chairperson
- report of a committee
- notice of motion from a member.

Where a matter is urgent and has not been placed on an agenda, it may be brought before a meeting as extraordinary business by a:

- report of chief executive
- report of Chairperson

Although out of time for a notice of motion, a member may bring an urgent matter to the attention of the meeting through the meeting chair.

4.3 CODE OF CONDUCT**Decision Required**

Report To: Motueka Community Board

Meeting Date: 21 October 2016

Report Author: Robyn Scherer, Executive Assistant

Report Number: MCB16-10-03

1 Summary

- 1.1 A local authority must adopt a Code of Conduct under Schedule 7, Clause 15 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 1.2 The Code of Conduct provides guidance on the standards of behaviour that are expected from the elected members of the Tasman District Council in their dealings with each other, staff, the public as well as how they handle information acquired in their official roles.
- 1.3 The Code also sets out the roles and responsibilities of elected members, including appointed members. Compliance and breaches of the code are dealt with in the Code. A summary of the legislative requirements that have some bearing on the duties and conduct of elected members is included.
- 1.4 The Tasman District Council adopted the Code of Conduct (Attachment 1) at its inaugural meeting on 20 October 2016. The Council also resolved to refer the Code of Conduct to the two Community Boards for their consideration and adoption. A Community Board is not required to adopt a code of conduct but it is recommended that you do.

2 Draft Resolution**That the Motueka Community Board**

- 1. receives the Code of Conduct report RMB16-10-03; and**
- 2. adopts the Code of Conduct 2013.**

3 Purpose of the Report

- 3.1 This report seeks the Motueka Community Board's consideration to adopt the Code of Conduct 2013 as required for the Council under Schedule 7, Section 15 of the Local Government Act 2002.

4 Background and Discussion

- 4.1 Schedule 7, Clause 15 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires councils to adopt a Code of Conduct for its members.
- 4.2 The Code outlines the manner in which members should behave towards each other, the public and staff as well as how they handle information acquired in their official roles.
- 4.3 The Code sets out the roles and responsibilities of elected members, including appointed members.
- 4.4 Compliance and breaches of the Code are outlined in the Code.
- 4.5 A summary of legislation that has a bearing on the role and conduct of elected members is also appended to the Code.
- 4.6 Any amendment of the Code or the adoption of a new Code requires, in every case, a vote in support of not less than 75% of the members present.
- 4.7 Community Boards are not required to adopt a Code of Conduct. However, both the Motueka and Golden Bay Community Boards have adopted the Council Code of Conduct since 2007 and are requested by the Council to adopt the Code of Conduct 2013.
- 4.8 A breach of the Code of Conduct does not constitute an offence under the Local Government Act 2002.

5 Options

- 5.1 The Council is required by the Local Government Act 2002 to adopt a Code of Conduct and must adopt a version to comply with its statutory obligations.
- 5.2 The Motueka Community Board may wish to adopt the current version of the Code of Conduct, with or without amendments to the Code.

6 Policy / Legal Requirements / Plan

- 6.1 A breach of the Code is not considered a breach of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 6.2 The Code of Conduct fulfils the requirements of Clause 15, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

7 Significance and Engagement

- 7.1 Adopting a Code of Conduct is considered of very low significance as it does not have a high degree of public interest and it does not impact on levels of service or have financial implications.
- 7.2 The special consultative procedure, as prescribed in the Local Government Act 2002, does not have to be considered, as the adoption of the Code of Conduct is a requirement of the Local Government Act.

8 Conclusion

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Motueka Community Board adopts the Code of Conduct 2013.

9 Next Steps / Timeline

- 9.1 The Code of Conduct 2013, once adopted, will be published on the Council's website for public information.

10 Attachments

1. Code of Conduct 2013

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Code of Conduct

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PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires each local authority to adopt a code of conduct. Once adopted, all elected members are required to comply with the code.

This Code of Conduct provides guidance on the standards of behaviour that are expected from elected members of the Tasman District Council (Mayor and Councillors). The Code extends to all elected and appointed members of Council committees and sub-committees. The Code of Conduct applies to Community Board members where they have adopted it.

The Code applies to the Mayor and elected and appointed members in their dealings with:

- Each other
- The Chief Executive
- All staff employed by the Chief Executive on behalf of the Council
- The media
- The general public

The objective of the Code is to enhance:

- The effectiveness of the Council as the autonomous local authority with statutory responsibilities for the good local governance of Tasman District
- The credibility and accountability of the Council within its community
- Mutual trust, respect and tolerance between the elected and appointed members as a group and between the elected and appointed members and management

This Code of Conduct seeks to achieve its objectives by recording:

- An agreed statement of roles and responsibilities (recorded in Part Two of the Code)
- Agreed general principles of conduct (recorded in Part Three of the code)
- Specific codes of conduct applying to particular circumstances or matters (also recorded in Part Three of the Code)

Elected members are primarily accountable to the electors of the District through the democratic process. However both elected and appointed members must note that the Auditor-General may hold them to account for unlawful actions or expenditure or for breaches of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968.

1.2 General Principles

The Code of Conduct that follows is based on the following general principles of good governance.

- **Public Interest:** Members should serve only the interests of the District as a whole and never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any one person.
- **Honesty and Integrity:** Members should act with honesty and integrity and not place themselves in situations where those qualities may be questioned, nor behave improperly and on all occasions avoid the appearance of such behaviour.
- **Objectivity:** Members should impartially make decisions on merit including making appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards or benefits. Mayor and Councillors should also note that, once elected, their primary duty is to the interests of the entire District. Community Board members should also note that, once elected, their primary duty is to the interests of their community.
- **Accountability:** Members should be accountable to the public for their actions and the manner in which they carry out their responsibilities, and cooperate fully and honestly with the scrutiny appropriate to their particular office.
- **Openness:** Members should be as open as possible about their actions and those of the Council, and be prepared to justify their actions.
- **Personal Judgment:** Members can and will take account of the view of others, but should reach their own conclusions on the issues before them, and act in accordance with those conclusions.
- **Respect for Others:** Members should promote equality by not discriminating unlawfully against any person and by treating people with respect, regardless of their race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. They should respect the impartiality and integrity of the Council staff.
- **Duty to Uphold the Law:** Members should uphold the law, and on all occasions, act in accordance with the trust the public places in them.
- **Stewardship:** Members must ensure that the Council uses resources prudently and for lawful purposes, and that the Council maintains sufficient resources to meet its statutory obligations.
- **Leadership:** Members should promote and support these principles by example, and always endeavour to act in the best interests of the community.

PART TWO: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This part of the Code describes the roles and responsibilities of elected members, the additional roles of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as well as the role of appointed members and the Chief Executive.

2.1 Elected Members

Elected members, acting as the Council are responsible for:

- The development and adoption of Council policy.
- Monitoring the performance of the Council against its stated objectives and policies.
- Prudent stewardship of Council resources.
- Employment of the Chief Executive, and overseeing and monitoring his/her performance.
- Representing the interests of the residents and ratepayers of Tasman District - on election, the members' first responsibility is to the District as a whole.

Unless otherwise provided in the Local Government Act 2002 or in Standing Orders, the Council can only act by majority decisions at meetings. Each member has one vote, except that in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairperson has a casting vote. Any individual member has no authority to act on behalf of the Council unless the Council has expressly delegated such authority.

2.2 Mayor

The Mayor is elected by the District as a whole and as one of the elected members shares the same responsibilities as other members of the Council. The Mayor also has the following roles:

- A presiding member at Council meetings. The Mayor is responsible for ensuring the orderly conduct of business during meetings as determined in Standing Orders.
- An ex-officio member on all Council standing committees
- An advocate on behalf of the community. This role may involve promoting the community and representing its interests. Mayoral advocacy will be most effective where it is carried out with the knowledge and support of the Council. The Mayor has no authority to act on behalf of the Council unless the Council has expressly delegated such authority.
- A ceremonial head of the Council.
- Leadership and feedback to other elected members on teamwork and chairpersonship of committees.
- As a Justice of the Peace during the period the Mayor holds office.
 -
- The exercise of the powers to appoint a Deputy Mayor and the Committees of Council, and to appoint the Chairperson to those committees, as per Standing Orders (section 41A, Local Government Act 2002)

The Mayor must follow the same rules as other elected members about making public statements and committing the Council to a particular course of action, unless acting in accordance with the rules for media contact on behalf of the Council under a delegation of authority from the Council.

2.3 Deputy Mayor

The Deputy Mayor generally exercises the same roles as other elected members. If the Mayor is absent or incapacitated, the Deputy Mayor must perform all of the responsibilities and duties, and may exercise the Mayor's powers.

2.4 Committee Chairperson or Joint Committee Chairperson or Community Board Chairperson

A committee (or board) chairperson presides over all meetings of the committee (or board), ensuring that the committee (or board) acts within the powers delegated by the Council, and as set out in the Council's Delegations Manual. The Chairperson must abide by Standing Orders and must ensure members of their committee (or board) also abide by Standing Orders during meetings of their committee (or board). Committee (or board) chairpersons may be called on to act as an official spokesperson on a particular issue.

2.5 Deputy Chairperson

The deputy chairperson may stand in for the chairperson when the chairperson is absent or unavailable. While standing in for the chairperson, the deputy chairperson has the roles and responsibilities of the chairperson.

2.6 Appointed Members

The Council may appoint members of the public to any of its committees or sub-committees if it believes they have a significant contribution to make to the work of the committee or sub-committee. Appointed members are subject to this Code of Conduct.

2.7 Chief Executive

The Chief Executive is appointed by the Council in accordance with section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002. The Chief Executive is responsible for implementing and managing the Council's policies and objectives within the budgetary constraints established by the Council. In terms of section 42 of the Act, the responsibilities of the Chief Executive are:

- Implementing the decisions of the Council
- Providing advice to the Council and to Community Boards
- Ensuring that all responsibilities, duties and powers delegated to the Chief Executive or to any person employed by the Chief Executive, or imposed or conferred by any Act, regulation or bylaw are properly performed or exercised.
- Managing the activities of the local authority economically, effectively and efficiently
- Maintaining systems to enable effective planning and accurate reporting of the financial and service performance of the local authority
- Providing leadership for the staff of the local authority

- Employing staff on behalf of the local authority (including negotiation of the terms of employment for the staff of the local authority)

Under section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002 the Chief Executive employs all other staff on behalf of the local authority.

2.8 Community Board members

The role of a community board member is to:

- represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community; and
- consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board; and
- maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community; and
- prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community; and
- communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community; and
- undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.

Section 52 LGA 2002

- In addition, the Tasman District Council has given the community boards additional roles and responsibilities that are outlined in the Delegations Register.

PART THREE: RELATIONSHIPS AND BEHAVIOURS

3.1 Relationships with Other Members

Successful teamwork is a critical element in the success of any democratically elected organisation. No team will be effective unless mutual respect exists between members. To achieve this objective, elected and appointed members should conduct their dealings with each other in ways that:

- Maintains public confidence in the office to which they have been elected
- Is open and honest
- Focuses on issues rather than personalities
- Avoids aggressive, offensive or abusive conduct

3.2 Relationships with Staff

Elected members should be aware that failure to observe this section of the Code of Conduct may breach the Council's obligations to act as a good employer and may expose the Council to civil litigation, proceedings under employment law and audit sanctions.

The effective performance of the Council also requires a high level of cooperation and mutual respect between elected and appointed members and staff. To ensure that level of cooperation and trust is maintained, elected and appointed members will:

- Recognise that the Chief Executive, (on behalf of the Council), is the employer of all Council employees. Only the Chief Executive may hire, dismiss, instruct or censure any employee.
- Make themselves aware of the obligations that the Council and the Chief Executive have as employers and observe those requirements at all times.
- Treat all employees with courtesy and respect, including the avoidance of aggressive, offensive or abusive conduct towards employees.
- Not do anything which compromises, or could be seen as compromising, the impartiality of an employee.
- Not publicly criticise the competence and integrity of any employee in any way.
- Raise concerns about employees only with the Chief Executive, and concerns about the Chief Executive only with the Mayor or the Chief Executive Review Committee.

3.3 Internal Communications

- 3.3.1 The Mayor, Standing Committee Chairs and Chief Executive Officer will meet as needed to maintain and promote effective communication.
- 3.3.2 At every ordinary meeting of the Council, the Mayor will provide a written report for inclusion in the agenda outlining activities undertaken in the capacity of Mayor (including activities in the community leadership/advocacy role) since the date of the last ordinary meeting or any matters the Mayor wishes to draw to the attention of Council.
- 3.3.3 At every standing Committee meeting, the Chair of that committee will provide a written report for inclusion in the agenda outlining activities undertaken in the capacity as Chairperson, or any matters the Chairperson wishes to draw to the attention of the committee.
- 3.3.4 Other elected members may provide reports on their attendances on behalf of the Council through the Chair's Report.
- 3.3.5 All meeting agendas will be finalised by the Chief Executive Officer or Departmental Manager in consultation with the presiding member (the Mayor in the case of Council meetings, the relevant Committee Chair in the case of committee meetings), or the relevant Community Board Chair in the case of Community Board meetings.

3.4 Relationships with the Community

Effective Council decision-making depends on productive relationships between elected members and the community at large.

Members should ensure that individual citizens are accorded respect in their dealings with the Council and have their concerns heard and deliberated on in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Members should act in a manner that encourages and values community involvement in local democracy.

3.6 Contact with the Media

Tasman District Council's elected members have a responsibility to conduct Council business in an open and democratic manner mindful of the role that the media plays in the democratic process.

From time to time, individual members will be approached to comment on a particular issue either on behalf of the Council, or as an elected member in their own right. This part of the code deals with the rights and duties of members when speaking to the media on behalf of the Council, or in their own right.

The following rules apply for media contact on behalf of the Council:

- The Mayor is the first point of contact for the official view on any issue. Where the Mayor is absent, any matters will be referred to the Deputy Mayor or relevant committee chairperson.
- The Mayor may refer any matter to the relevant committee chairperson or to the Chief Executive for their comment.
- No other member may comment on behalf of the Council without having first obtained the approval of the Mayor.

Elected members, including community board members, are free to express a personal view in the media, at any time, provided the following rules are observed:

- Media comments must not state or imply that they represent the views of the Council or community board, unless that is true.
- Where an elected member is making a statement that is contrary to a Council or community board decision or Council policy, the member must not state or imply that the statement represents a majority view.
- Media comments must observe the other requirements of the Code of Conduct, e.g. not disclose confidential information, or compromise the impartiality or integrity of staff, or be critical of other elected members.

3.7 Confidential Information

In the course of their duties elected and appointed members will occasionally receive information that may need to be treated as confidential. This will generally be information that is either commercially sensitive or is personal to a particular individual or organisation.

Elected and appointed members must not use or disclose confidential information for any purpose other than the purpose for which the information was supplied to the member.

Elected and appointed members should be aware that failure to observe these provisions will impede the performance of the Council by inhibiting information flows and undermining public confidence in the Council. Failure to observe these provisions may also expose the Council to prosecution under the Privacy Act 1993 and/or civil litigation.

3.8 Conflicts of Interest

Elected and appointed members must be careful that they maintain a clear separation between their personal interests and their duties as a member of the Council, a committee or sub-committee. This is to ensure that people who fill positions of authority carry on their duties free from bias (whether real or perceived). Members therefore need to familiarise themselves with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 which concerns financial interests, and with other legal requirements concerning non-financial conflicts of interest.

The Act provides that an elected member is disqualified from office, or from election to office, if that member is concerned or interested in contracts under which payments made by or on behalf of the local authority exceed \$25,000 in any financial year.

Additionally, elected and appointed members are prohibited from participating in any Council discussion or vote on any matter in which they have a pecuniary interest, other than an interest in common with the general public. The same rules also apply where the member's spouse contracts with the authority or has a pecuniary interest. Members must declare their interests at Council meetings where matters in which they have a pecuniary interest arise.

Elected members must make a general declaration of interest annually and as soon as practicable after becoming aware of any new interests. These declarations are recorded in a register of interests maintained by Council. The declaration must notify the Council of the nature and extent of any interest, including:

- Any employment, trade or profession carried on by the member or the member's spouse for profit or gain.

- Any company, trust, partnership etc for which the member or their spouse is a director, partner, trustee or beneficiary.
- The address of any land in which the member has a beneficial interest and which is in Tasman District.
- The address of any land where the landlord is the Tasman District Council and:
- The member or their spouse is a tenant; or
- The land is tenanted by a firm in which the member or spouse is a partner, or a company of which the member or spouse is a director, or a trust of which the member or spouse is a trustee or beneficiary.
- Any other matters which the public might reasonably regard as likely to influence the member's actions during the course of their duties as a member.

Appointed members are not required to make a declaration but are advised to do so if their business or other activities might reasonably be regarded as likely to influence the member's actions during the course of their duties as a member.

Declarations of interest from elected and appointed members are available for public inspection at any time.

If the member is in any doubt as to whether or not a particular course of action including a decision to take no action raises a conflict of interest, then the member should immediately seek guidance from the Chief Executive.

Members may also contact the Audit Office for guidance as to whether that member has a pecuniary interest. If there is a pecuniary interest, the member may seek an exemption to allow that member to participate or vote on a particular issue in which they may have a pecuniary interest. The latter must be done before the discussion or vote. The Chief Executive must also seek approval from the Audit Office for contractual payments to members, their spouses or their companies that exceed the \$25,000 annual limit.

Failure to observe the requirements of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 could potentially invalidate the particular decision made, or the action taken, by the Council. Failure to observe these requirements could also leave the elected member open to prosecution under the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968. In the event of a conviction elected members can be ousted from office.

3.9 Representing the Council in the community

Elected members who are invited or wish to represent the Council at an event such as a seminar or conference, must meet the following conditions:

- The Mayor must approve any requests involving members travelling outside the Nelson/Tasman/Marlborough District at Council expense, with regard to Council's travel policy.
- The cost of representation must be within the annual budgeted figure for such activities unless the council makes specific authorisation for additional expenditure.
- Following his or her attendance, the member must forward a written or oral report to the Council, or appropriate Standing Committee, which summarises the event including potential significance to the business of the Tasman District Council. Where the Council is represented by a delegation, one member of the party will report back on their behalf.

These requirements apply to situations where members will be participating as representatives of the Tasman District Council. They do not apply to situations where members attend in a private capacity. In such cases the member may wish to report to the Council on items of interest or general value.

3.10 Standing Orders

Elected and appointed members must adhere to any Standing Orders adopted by the Council under the Local Government Act 2002. Those Standing Orders are subject to the same legal requirements as a Code of Conduct with regard to their adoption and amendment.

3.11 Ethics

Tasman District Council seeks to promote the highest standards of ethical conduct amongst its elected members. Accordingly, elected members in relation to Council activities will:

- Claim only for legitimate expenses as laid down by any determination of the Remuneration Authority then in force, and any lawful policy of the Council developed in accordance with that determination.
- Not influence, or attempt to influence, any Council employee to take actions that may benefit the member, or the member's family or business interests.
- Not use Council resources for personal business including campaigning for election or promotion of a particular point of view.
- Not solicit, demand, or request any gift, reward or benefit by virtue of their position.
- Notify the Chief Executive if any gifts are accepted.
- Where a gift to the value of \$250 or more is received by virtue of their position as a member, immediately disclose this to the Chief Executive for inclusion in the publicly available register of interests.

3.11 Dress Code

Elected members must maintain a reasonable standard of dress when attending Civic Functions, Council meetings and committee meetings.

3.12 Disqualification of Members from Office

Elected members are automatically disqualified from office if they are convicted of a criminal offence punishable by two or more years imprisonment, or if they cease to be or lose their status as an elector or convicted of certain breaches of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968.

The Council requires elected members who are declared bankrupt to notify the Chief Executive as soon as practicable after being declared bankrupt. The Chief Executive will then notify the Mayor and all other elected members.

PART FOUR: COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW

4.1 Compliance

Elected members must note that they are bound to comply with the provisions of this code of conduct pursuant to the Local Government Act 2002, Schedule 7, clause 15(4). The Council also requires appointed members to comply with this code.

Members are also bound by the other provisions of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the Secret Commissions Act 1910, the Crimes Act 1961 and the Securities Act 1978. The Chief Executive will ensure that an explanation of these Acts is made at the first meeting after each triennial election. Elected members are referred to www.legislation.govt.nz for these Acts. Short explanations of the obligations each of these impose with respect to conduct of elected members is attached in the Appendix to this code.

Alleged breaches of the Code shall be reported to the Chief Executive or Mayor as appropriate. Where it is a minor matter, the Mayor may require a Member to apologise at a subsequent Council meeting. Where it is considered that the matter is of substance, a report shall be submitted for the consideration of the Council.

4.2 Responses to Breaches of the Code

The exact nature of the action the Council may take depends on the nature of the breach and whether there are statutory provisions dealing with the breach.

Where there are statutory provisions:

- Breaches relating to members' interests render members liable for prosecution by the Auditor-General under the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968.
- Breaches which result in the Council suffering financial loss or damage may be reported on by the Auditor-General under the Local Government Act 2002, which may result in an elected member having to make good the loss or damage.
- Breaches relating to the commission of a criminal offence may leave the elected or appointed member liable for criminal prosecution.

In these cases, the Council may refer an issue to the relevant body, any member of the public may make a complaint, or the body itself may take action of its own initiative.

Where there are no statutory provisions, the Council may take the following action:

- Censure
- Removal of the elected or appointed member from Council committees and/or other representative type bodies
- Removal by resolution of the elected member from a position as Deputy Mayor or chair of a committee
- Removal by resolution of the appointed member as chair of a committee

A decision to apply one or more of these actions requires a Council resolution in the appropriate terms.

4.3 Review

Once adopted, a code of conduct continues in force until amended by the Council. The code can be amended at any time but cannot be revoked unless the Council replaces it with another code. Once adopted, amendments to the Code of Conduct require a resolution supported by 75 per cent or more of the members of the Council present.

The Council will formally review the code as soon as practicable after the beginning of each triennium. The results of that review will be presented to the Council for its consideration and approval while any amendment will require a resolution supported by 75% or more of the members of the Council present.

APPENDIX TO THE CODE: LEGISLATION BEARING ON THE ROLE AND CONDUCT OF ELECTED MEMBERS

This is a summary of the legislation requirements that has some bearing on the duties and conduct of elected members.

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

This Act¹ regulates situations where a member's personal interests impinge, or could be seen as impinging on their duties as an elected member.

The Act provides that an elected member is disqualified from office if that member is concerned or interested in contracts under which payments made by or on behalf of the local authority exceed \$25,000 in any financial year.

Additionally, elected members are prohibited from participating in any Council discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a pecuniary interest, other than an interest in common with the general public. The same rules also apply where the member's spouse contracts with the authority or has a pecuniary interest.

Members may also contact the Audit Office for guidance as to whether that member has a pecuniary interest, and if so, may seek an exemption to allow that member to participate or vote on a particular issue in which they may have a pecuniary interest. The latter must be done before the discussion or vote. The Chief Executive must also seek approval from the Audit Office for contractual payments to members, their spouses or their companies that exceed the \$25,000 annual limit.

Failure to observe these requirements could also leave the elected member open to prosecution under the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968. In the event of a conviction elected members can be ousted from office.

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 sets out a list of meeting procedures and requirements. Of particular importance for the roles and conduct of elected members is the fact that the chair has the responsibility to maintain order at meetings, but all elected members should accept a personal responsibility to maintain acceptable standards of address and debate. No elected member should:

- Create a disturbance or a distraction while another Councillor is speaking.
- Be disrespectful when they refer to each other or other people.
- Use offensive language about the Council, other Councillors, any employee of the Council or any member of the public.

¹ The Audit Office publication *Financial Conflicts of Interests of Members of Governing Bodies* (2001) provides further guidance on this Act.

Secret Commissions Act 1910

Under this Act it is unlawful for an elected member (or officer) to advise anyone to enter into a contract with a third person and receive a gift or reward from that third person as a result, or to present false receipts to the Council.

If convicted of any offence under this Act a person can be imprisoned for up to 2 years, or fined up to \$1000, or both. A conviction therefore would trigger the ouster provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 and result in the removal of the member from office.

Crimes Act 1961

Under this Act it is unlawful for an elected member (or officer) to:

- Accept or solicit for themselves (or anyone else) any gift or reward for acting or not acting in relation to the business of the Council.
- Use information gained in the course of their duties for their, or another persons, monetary gain or advantage.

These offences are punishable by a term of imprisonment of 7 years or more. Elected members convicted of these offences will also be automatically ousted from office.

Securities Act 1978

The Securities Act 1978 essentially placed elected members in the same position as company directors whenever the Council offers stock to the public. Elected members may be personally liable if investment documents such as a prospectus contain untrue statements and may be liable for criminal prosecution if the requirements of the Act are not met.

4.4 EXPLANATION OF THE LAWS AFFECTING MEMBERS AND THEIR CONDUCT

Information Only - No Decision Required

Report To:	Motueka Community Board
Meeting Date:	21 October 2016
Report Author:	Lindsay McKenzie, Chief Executive
Report Number:	MCB16-10-04

1 Summary

- 1.1 As the cover page to this agenda explains, the business that must be conducted at the first meeting of the local authority following the triennial general election of members is set out in Clause 21, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 1.2 I am required by that clause to give you a general explanation of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the other laws affecting members. That explanation follows.
- 1.3 The laws affecting members, include –
- (a) the appropriate provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968; and
 - (b) sections 99, 105, and 105A of the Crimes Act 1961, and
 - (c) the Secret Commissions Act 1910; and
 - (d) the Securities Act 1978;
- 1.4 It is unfortunate that the first thing that I'm required to advise you about is the extent to which the law proscribes and constrains your conduct as a member. It would be better if our first engagement could have been to share our aspirations for the organisation and the community we serve. This is unfortunately not what Parliament had in mind and regrettably it is the scheme of much of the law that governs us. Our challenge is to ensure that we meet our statutory obligations in a way that enables rather than frustrates the Community Board in achieving its vision for its community.

2 Draft Resolution

That the Motueka Community Board receives the report outlining the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and other laws affecting members and their conduct.

3 Purpose of the Report

- 3.1 To inform the incoming members of the Motueka Community Board about the relevant provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and other laws affecting members.

4 Background and Discussion

4.1 Introduction

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires the following laws to be explained at the first meeting of a local authority after each triennial general election:

- The Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA),
- The Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968,
- sections 99, 105 and 105A of the Crimes Act 1965,
- The Secret Commissions Act 1910,
- The Securities Act 1978.

This report provides an overview of these laws and is intended to acquaint you with the type of legislation that may directly affect your actions. The conduct of meetings and members' relationships with each other and with Council employees is also covered by Standing Orders, the Code of Conduct and the Delegations Manual. The review and re-adoption of the first two of those documents was dealt with earlier. The Delegations Manual will be dealt with over the next two meetings.

The conduct of the Council's business is subject to the law. Despite the empowering nature of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), at least compared to the Acts that predate it, councils are still "creatures of statute". Most of Council's powers, duties and responsibilities are set out in the law. Where Council has discretion in its decision making there are prescribed processes to follow – some would say quite onerous – including to consult and consider the views and preferences of communities.

4.2 Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987

The Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act (LGOIMA) deals with the:

- disclosure or otherwise of information by a local authority, and
- conduct of meetings including giving notice, public attendance, reasons for excluding the public and availability of agendas and reports.

The Standing Orders that have been circulated contain the provisions of LGOIMA which affect meetings. The disclosure of information by a local authority is not something that elected representatives generally get involved in. Requests for information are dealt with by management within the parameters laid down under the Act and any delegations you give. Where Councillors are affected by a request for information they are consulted about the decision whether or not to release it. You can use LGOIMA to obtain official information also but I'd typically view it as a failure in our relationship if you have to revert to that approach.

The fundamental principle underpinning LGOIMA is that all information held by a local authority should be publicly accessible unless there is good reason for withholding it. While the existence or otherwise of a good reason to withhold will ultimately depend on the facts, the two most relevant reasons are those relating to the conduct of negotiations – especially commercial negotiations – and the privacy of natural persons.

The part of LGOIMA dealing with meetings applies the same principles of openness and availability. Agendas are to be available to members and to the public two working days prior to meetings. We aim for five clear days – two being a weekend. A meeting must be open to the public unless there are good reasons for excluding the public. These reasons are to be stated by resolution at the time the decision is taken to exclude the public. The reasons for excluding the public are generally the same as those applying to the withholding of official information except that you cannot exclude the public to have a ‘free and frank’ discussion.

Decisions taken by local authorities under LGOIMA are able to be referred to the Ombudsman for review. Should either party not accept the Ombudsman’s decision the matter may finally be dealt with in the High Court.

4.3 Local Authorities (Members’ Interests) Act 1968

A handbook on the Local Authorities (Members’ Interests) Act and the law on conflicts of interest has been provided in your induction pack. The key presumption to adopt is that any formal business dealings that members have with the Council may fall within the scope of the Act. These can be discussed with the Chief Executive to ensure that no breach of the Act occurs. We use a Register of Interests as a useful risk management approach, especially relating to pecuniary interests.

You can be disqualified from office if you are ‘concerned or interested’ in contracts with the Council if the total payments made or to be made exceed \$25,000 in any year. A pecuniary interest still exists below that threshold.

As a rule, Councillors may take part in a debate and may vote on any issue in which their interest is no greater than that of a member of the general public. If their personal interest is greater than that of the general public, they should ‘declare an interest’ at the beginning of the debate (and this will be recorded by the Committee Advisor) and they should take no further part in the debate and not vote.

Members’ interests in revenue and financing policy decisions have been examined by the Office of the Auditor-General. In July 2009 she received a complaint that three Councillors at Environment Canterbury had breached section 6(1) of the Local Authorities (Members’ Interests) Act 1968 (the Act), by discussing and voting on a proposal to recover the costs of managing water resources in Canterbury. A fourth Councillor was later added.

Section 6(1) of the Act prohibits members of a local authority from discussing or voting on a matter if they have a financial (or “pecuniary”) interest in it. Section 6(4) enables the Auditor-General to give a declaration that this prohibition will not apply if its application impedes the business of the local authority or is against the interests of electors. She concluded that the four Councillors breached section 6(1) by participating in a decision when they had a financial interest in it. As a prosecution would be unlikely to result in a conviction she decided that it would not be appropriate in these circumstances to seek to have the Councillors prosecuted. The net financial benefit to the Councillors ranged from \$134 to \$1628. That gives you a feel for the thresholds that apply.

Managing conflicts of interest is a member's individual responsibility and while staff will assist, a member cannot rely upon on staff to advise them of a possible breach. The induction information you have and will get provides further information on nonpecuniary conflicts and bias.

4.4 Crimes Act 1961

Sections 99, 105 and 105A of the Crimes Act deal with corruption and bribery of and by officials and the corrupt use of official information by 'officials' which includes members of local authorities. Section 105 indicates that the misuse of any official's power in these respects can result in the imprisonment of the official for up to seven years. Section 105A indicates that similar penalties are possible for the corrupt use of official information.

4.5 Secret Commissions Act 1901

The Secret Commissions Act defines an officer or member of a local authority as an agent of that local authority. It then indicates that the corrupt giving of gifts or other consideration to an agent for favours, or acts being done or not being done, is an offence. Reasonably enough, the acceptance of gifts or other consideration in such circumstances is also an offence. An offence is committed even if the reward is obtained for another person. An agent who makes a contract on behalf of the principal (the Council) and fails to disclose a financial interest the agent has in the making of the contract, commits an offence.

The giving of false or misleading receipts, invoices or accounts to an agent with intent to deceive the principal is an offence. So too is the delivery or presentation of such documents to the principal by the agent. The receiving of secret rewards for procuring contracts is an offence.

4.6 The Securities Act 1973

The Securities Act concerns itself largely with the issuing of bonds and financial instruments that are available as funding mechanisms to Local Government. Council uses these mechanisms so the requirements of the Securities Act will need to be carefully observed.

Should any of you require any further information on any of these issues please do not hesitate to ask for assistance.

4.5 DATE OF FIRST ORDINARY MEETING**Decision Required**

Report To:	Motueka Community Board
Meeting Date:	21 October 2016
Report Author:	Robyn Scherer, Executive Assistant
Report Number:	MCB16-10-05

1 Summary

- 1.1 The Board is required under the Local Government Act 2002 to conduct certain business at the first meeting after the election. This is outlined in Clause 21(5), Schedule 7 of the Act.
- 1.2 One of the requirements is “the fixing of the date and time of the first meeting of the local authority or the adoption of a schedule of meetings”.
- 1.3 The Motueka Community Board is requested to set Tuesday 8 November 2016 at 4.00pm as the date and time of the first meeting of the Board after the election. The meeting will be held in the Motueka Service Centre meeting room.

2 Draft Resolution**That the Motueka Community Board**

- 1. receives the Date of First Ordinary Meeting report RGB16-10-05; and**
- 2. sets the date and time of the first meeting as Tuesday 8 November 2016 at 4.00pm.**