



Council Meeting for the Election of the Mayor

Agenda

Friday 8 November 2019
Commencing at 7pm

Council Chamber
Hobsons Bay Civic Centre
115 Civic Parade, Altona

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**



HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting Agenda

8 November 2019

THE COUNCIL'S MISSION

We will listen, engage and work with our community to plan, deliver and advocate for Hobsons Bay to secure a happy, healthy, fair and sustainable future for all.

OUR VALUES

Respectful

Community driven and focused

Trusted and reliable

Efficient and responsible

Bold and innovative

Accountable and transparent

Recognised

Council acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of these municipal lands and waterways, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Councillors:

Cr Tony Briffa	Cherry Lake Ward
Cr Sandra Wilson	Cherry Lake Ward
Cr Angela Altair	Strand Ward
Cr Peter Hemphill	Strand Ward
Cr Jonathon Marsden	Strand Ward
Cr Colleen Gates	Wetlands Ward
Cr Michael Grech	Wetlands Ward

Aaron van Egmond
Chief Executive Officer
Hobsons Bay City Council

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In accordance with Clause 11 of the *Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law 2015*, the Chief Executive Officer will be the temporary Chairperson for proceedings relating to the election of the Mayor.

Agenda

1 Council Welcome

The Chief Executive Officer will open the meeting, welcome members of the gallery and acknowledge the people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of this land.

2 Apologies

3 Mayoral Focus – End of Term Report

Directorate: Corporate Services

Councillor Portfolio: Not applicable

Appendices: Nil

Purpose

To update Councillors and the community on the areas of focus of the Mayoral Term 2018-19 of Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden.

Recommendation

That Council notes the Mayoral Focus End of Term Report for Cr Jonathon Marsden.

Summary

Following the Mayoral election in November 2018, Council elected Cr Jonathon Marsden to lead the Council as Mayor for the 2018-19 Mayoral Term.

Following his election as Mayor, Cr Marsden determined that his mayoral activities would focus on caring for our neighbours, managing Council finances, defending democracy, making decisions in the public interest and engaging with the cycling and walking communities. This report outlines the areas of particular focus and provides an update on activities achieved throughout Cr Marsden's Mayoral term.

Background

The Mayoral Program provides an opportunity for the Mayor of the Day to support key actions focusing on particular areas of interest and need while serving in the best interest of the Hobsons Bay community. For the 2018-19 Mayoral Term, Cr Marsden demonstrated a strong interest in community engagement, developing advocacy and community health and wellbeing, and a strong focus on sustainable transport within Hobsons Bay.

Discussion

Reconciliation Action Plan

Strengthening existing relationships with the community as well as developing and maintaining new relationships by creating opportunities for genuine engagement was an important focus for this Mayoral Program.

Council broadly promotes all engagement, communications and opportunities to the whole Hobsons Bay community, through a variety of channels including email, e-newsletters, posters at key community hubs, and so on. This approach has resulted in members of our Indigenous communities being made aware of and invited to engage with a range of Council projects throughout the current Mayoral term. The Mayor has personally engaged with our Indigenous communities through a number of project and activities.





The Mayor spent time with Balit Gulinya (meaning 'strong people'), a Planned Activity Group for First Nations people, at the May 2019 launch of *Dreaming*, their ceramics artwork exhibition in Council's Orbital exhibition space at Central Square Shopping Centre, Altona Meadows. *Dreaming*, which ran until October 2019, comprised six artists creating works in the

spirit of First Nations dreaming, or stories. Balit Gulinya are based at the Laverton Community Hub, and ceramics workshops were held at Woods Street Arts Space in Laverton.

Also in May 2019, as part of Heritage Hobsons Bay, the Mayor joined representatives of the Boon Wurrung and the 4th Williamstown Sea Scouts in their Cultural Day, and the naming of the SSS *Gurrong*. Permission had been granted for the Scouts to use the word 'gurrong', meaning 'canoe' in Boon Wurrung language, to foster a deeper understanding of our shared histories.

Council's performing arts program *Arts At Your Doorstep* brought Jessie Lloyd to the Williamstown Town Hall during NAIDOC Week in July 2019, for her moving Mission Songs Project, *Songs From Back Home*.

Under the Reconciliation Action Plan a clear acknowledgment of significant Aboriginal sites was constituted.

Dean Stewart, a proud Wemba Wemba Wergaia man who developed the *Lost Lands Found* installation at Logan Reserve, Altona, near the Altona Homestead. *Lost Lands Found*



comprises a small plot that is planted with endemic flowering grasslands and surrounded by a post rail fence. The installation enables the community to consider what the landscape was like before colonisation and appreciate the rich biodiversity of grasslands while acknowledging their demise over the past 200 years, with less than one per cent remaining. The Mayor has been able to reference the work in its early stages through media and speaking opportunities. The

Mayor joined the Laverton Aboriginal Planned Activity Group Members alongside Mr Stewart for a special talk about the project while the flowers were in full bloom.

The Mayor joined a new group of locals passionate about shared history as they researched the story of the Message Tree in Williamstown. The group presented their work and made recommendations to further celebrate and acknowledge this shared history on site. The group received a community grant for this work.

Water

Another focus of the Mayoral Program for the 2018-19 period included maintaining and promoting the health of Hobsons Bay's waterways through enhanced advocacy.

The Mayor sought to maintain strong alliances and worked in partnership with agencies, local business and industry to improve communication with the community, drive better outcomes for waterway management and enhance advocacy for improvements to our waterways.

Council engaged with this focus area by commencing the Hobsons Bay Coastal Management Plan, reviewing the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, and completing the Draft Drainage Asset Management Plan, including a gross pollutant traps strategy and program.

In addition, litter traps have been installed in upgraded outfall drainages to ensure a reduction of litter flowing into the bay. Council has also succeeded in securing Living Rivers funding to undertake further feasibility investigations for a Cherry Creek stormwater harvesting system, which will address litter and water quality.

Sustainability

A number of significant sustainability initiatives and milestones were achieved.

Recycling reforms. In March 2019, Council endorsed the Waste and Litter Strategy 2025, and shortly after this Council's recycling provider SKM shut down. In response to the recycling crisis, actions from the Waste and Litter Strategy 2025 were accelerated, and in October 2019 Council endorsed a significant reform to improve recycling outcomes from Hobsons Bay kerbside recycling. The program will commence over the coming summer season. Cr Marsden represented Hobsons Bay in a range of consultative forums and panels with the State Minister for Environment, as well as representing Hobsons Bay at the Parliamentary Inquiry into Waste and Recycling.

Reducing Council's carbon emissions. Significant milestones were achieved to meet Council's objective to achieve zero net emissions. In particular, in October 2019, Council endorsed an exciting program to bring forward the roll out of solar panels across the majority of Council buildings over the next two years (43 buildings). Procurement will be underway before Christmas. Council also signed up to the Victorian councils' Power Purchasing Agreement process to purchase renewable power for the electricity Council requires from the grid into the future (estimated at around 30 per cent of today's usage, following the roll out of solar panels and building retrofitting).

On 5 June 2019 at the Substation, Newport, The Mayor hosted Tidal, a World Environment Day symposium that explored themes of climate change and the intersection between art and science. The stellar panel at this well attended evening session was chaired by Jenny Martin, senior lecturer in Science Communication at the University of Melbourne, and comprised artist Yandell Walton, whose work at The Substation was presented as part of the Art+Climate=Change festival; Wain Fimeri, award winning local filmmaker and creator of the documentary *Tidal*; and Blanche Verlie, associate lecturer at RMIT University.

Council participated in a world-first trial in partnership with the University of Melbourne to use mangroves to protect our foreshore from erosion. One of the aims for this project is to raise awareness of nature-based systems which can be used to defend our coastline.

Cr Marsden hosted the celebration event for the Future Leaders for Sustainability program. This Australia-first partnership between the CSIRO, Council and Hobsons Bay's secondary colleges, now in its second year, tasks students with identifying local environmental problems and finding STEM based solutions using an open-inquiry approach to learning. Students who successfully completed the program were awarded with a Bronze CSIRO Creativity in Research, Engineering, Science and Technology (CREST) award and brought a youth perspective to some local environmental issues that Council is currently facing.

Good Land Management Practices

Part of the Mayoral Program incorporated exploring opportunities to foster relationships with lead agencies such as CSIRO and investigating ways in which to work with industry and businesses.

Council is working with organisations in the remediation of their land. In addition Council has the benefit of an embedded Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) officer as part of the Victorian Government's Officers for the Protection of Local Environment (OPLE) pilot program. The OPLE officer works across the Hobsons Bay and Brimbank municipalities to address landowner and environmental issues.

Foreshore Upgrade Works

The last 12 months has also been a busy time for works in foreshore areas. Stage 1 of the PA Burns Reserve upgrade in Seaholme was completed with a new alignment of the shared trail, the installation of a bridge, access paths, dune rehabilitation and fencing. The works provide improved access to the popular dog beach whilst removing the conflict of dogs walking across the popular shared trail. Other works include the construction of maintenance vehicle access ramps onto the foreshore in Altona at Bent Street, and works are nearing completion on pedestrian access ramp onto the foreshore at Millers Road in Altona.

Last summer, an extensive consultation process was undertaken with residents and visitors to help shape the future development of Council's Marine and Coastal Management Plan. A significant response was received which will help Council shape the development of this plan as it progresses. Preliminary designs for future foreshore works has also progressed including pedestrian access ramps at Mount Street and Webb Street in Altona, seawall upgrades in Altona and improvements to rock walls and access ramps at Cyril Curtain and Hatt Reserve in Williamstown. Keep an eye out for information on these projects in the future.

Air

Council is investigating partnering with or lending support to EPA initiatives such as air monitoring. This may include advocating to the Victorian Government to increase funding to the OPLE pilot program currently underway.

Transport

A key objective was to increase bicycle riding as a mode of transport and, in particular, highlight the need for increased bicycle infrastructure. Council is proud to showcase the great bike paths across the city and promote cycling as a great way to get around and take in some lovely natural settings while gaining natural health benefits.

The Mayor's involvement included building alliances with cycling groups, continuing advocacy on Parkiteer secure bike parking stations, and introducing bike maintenance stations into the municipality.



Council hosted the inaugural Mayoral Bike Ride on Sunday 31 March 2019, which invited community members to ride along the Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail and hear about the local flora and fauna, as well as information about the cycle ways of Hobsons Bay and how to use them.

A second Mayoral Bike Ride on 2 June 2019 coincided with the World Environment Day festival and traversed the Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail from the Esplanade, Altona to the Altona Coastal Park and back.

A third Mayoral Bike Ride was conducted on 11 August 2019, taking in the Friends of Greenwich Bay conservation event, a tour of the Timeball Tower and exploration of the Jawbone Marine Park.

The Mayor also championed Ride2Work Day and Ride 2School Day across the municipality as part of efforts in raising awareness of the benefits of cycling.

Council organised a Ride2School Day event in partnership with Spotswood Primary School for 2019. The students met the Mayor at Donald McLean Reserve for a chat about the joys of cycling, bicycle safety and sharing our city with cyclists. It was a successful, well attended event with approximately 60 children taking part. A similar Ride2Work Day was hosted for Altona residents and Council staff.



In partnership with Toyota Australia, and an Australian first, Council trialled three of the first Toyota Mirai hydrogen fuel cell powered electric vehicles in Australia. These vehicles emit only water vapour and do not generate any engine noise or greenhouse gases.

A total of five electric vehicles have now been introduced into the fleet and four double port 22kW EV charging stations installed within the Council fleet compound in Altona to support their use. In addition a 50kW DC fast EV charger has also been installed adjacent to the compound and is available for public use.

Creative Technology Hub



Engaging young people and older adults in skill development for educational and employment opportunities is the mandate for the Creative Technology Hub (CTH) project delivered in partnership with the Seaworks Foundation. Now part of the infrastructure of the Maritime Precinct on the waterfront at Williamstown, the CTH offers opportunities for our community to learn about 3D design and printing, robotics, coding, green screen film technology and Augmented Reality.

Harnessing creative technologies for community-led projects sits alongside programs delivered by the Hobsons Bay Libraries staff. Weekly drop-in sessions are offered for the community to try out and master a range of technologies. Fostering skills for volunteers who have a passion and interest in the rich Maritime history of the area will also activate the static collection of the Seaworks Maritime Museum.

As a public – private partnership project both philanthropy (Gandel) and State Government (Living Libraries funding) have joined with businesses including Toyota, Raeco, and AV Jennings, together with Council and Seaworks, to deliver a project that will have significant community impact and address specific needs identified in our municipality.

Whilst the Hub is now operational, with a soft opening at the end of October, it will be officially launched early next year when the new entrance laneway off Nelson Place has been made fully accessible for all abilities.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

Priority 5: Activate sustainable practices

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

Goal 1: An Inclusive, Resilient and Healthy Community

- 1.3 Ensure all community members will have access to quality community, sport and recreation facilities, cultural experiences and open spaces to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle
- 1.4 Work in partnership with stakeholders to advocate to all levels of government for quality education, training, and lifelong learning opportunities for all community members
- 1.5 Understand the current and future needs of our community, and work to ensure those most vulnerable in our community are safe and have equitable and timely access to the support they need

Policy and Previous Council Reports

Activities identified throughout this Mayoral Focus End of Term Report link to existing Council strategies around Biodiversity, Children and Young People, Climate Change, Gender Equality, Creative City and Sport and Recreation.

Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk

The Mayor of the Day has complied with Section 73AA of the *Local Government Act* 1989, being the Functions of the Mayor.

Financial and Resource Implications

Within the past and current budget, no specific financial allocation has been made for these initiatives. Costs associated with the delivery of this program were funded from within existing operational budget allocations.

Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts

Each of the initiatives or focus areas have a potential positive environmental, social and/or economic impact for the community.

Consultation and Communication

The Mayor is required to attend numerous activities and media commitments which are managed in addition to the Mayoral Program activities outlined in this report.

The Mayor has made himself available to attend group meetings and listen to the views and ideas of community members and other stakeholders during his Mayoral term. The Mayor maintains that community consultation is key to best servicing the community needs, and has been active in ensuring strong consultation processes are exercised.

Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

4 Election of Mayor

The Chief Executive Officer will invite nomination/s for the Office of Mayor for 2019-20.

NB The procedure for the election of Mayor will follow section 90 of the *Local Government Act* 1989, and Clauses 12, 13 and 14 of the *Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law* 2015.

The Mayor, once elected, will be robed in the Council Chamber by the Chief Executive Officer and will be presented with the Mayoral Jewel of Office. The Mayor will then chair the remainder of the meeting.

5 Mayoral Response

The Mayor will address the meeting and invite other Councillors to respond.

6 Appointment of the Deputy Mayor

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Appoints a Deputy Mayor for the purpose of assisting the Mayor with official duties.**
 2. **Notes that the position of Deputy Mayor is not a statutory position under the *Local Government Act 1989*, and that no additional allowance is payable.**
 3. **Conducts the process for the election of the Deputy Mayor as described in the *Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law 2015*.**
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7 Election of Deputy Mayor

If Council resolves to appoint a Deputy Mayor, nominations will be sought.

The Mayor will call for nominations for the Deputy Mayor for 2019-20.

In the event that more than one nomination is received, the Chief Executive Officer will be the returning officer for the election of the Deputy Mayor which will be conducted in the same manner as for the election of the Mayor.

8 Mayoral Vehicle/Travel Arrangements

Recommendation

That Council provides a vehicle for the use of the Mayor and pays all associated costs or, in the event that the Mayor does not require a motor vehicle, that an amount equivalent to the mean average vehicle operating cost for a medium vehicle as published by the RACV in June 2019 be paid to the Mayor to cover all expenses associated with servicing, fuel and insurance of the Mayor's private motor vehicle.

9 Close the Meeting and Issue an Invitation to the Civic Reception

The Mayor will close the meeting and invite all present to the Civic Reception in Meeting Rooms 3 and 4.

Procedure for the Election of the Mayor 2019-20

Local Government Act 1989

Section 90 Voting

- (1) A question before a meeting of a Council or special committee is to be determined as follows—
 - (a) each Councillor present at a meeting of the Council and each member of a special committee present at a meeting of the special committee who is entitled to vote is entitled to one vote;
- * * * * *
- (c) unless the procedures of a Council or special committee otherwise provide, voting must be by a show of hands;
- (ca) voting at a meeting that is open to members of the public must not be in secret;
- (d) the question is determined in the affirmative by a majority of the Councillors or members of the special committee present at a meeting at the time the vote is taken voting in favour of the question;
- (e) except where subsection (2) applies, if the number of votes in favour of the question is half the number of Councillors or members of the special committee present at the meeting at the time the vote is taken, the Chairperson has a second vote.
- (2) If there is an equality of votes on a question arising under section 71(1), 87(2), 87(3) or 87(4), the matter is to be determined by lot.

Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law 2015

Clause 12 – Method of Voting

The election of Mayor will be carried out by a show of hands.

Clause 13 – Determining the Election of Mayor

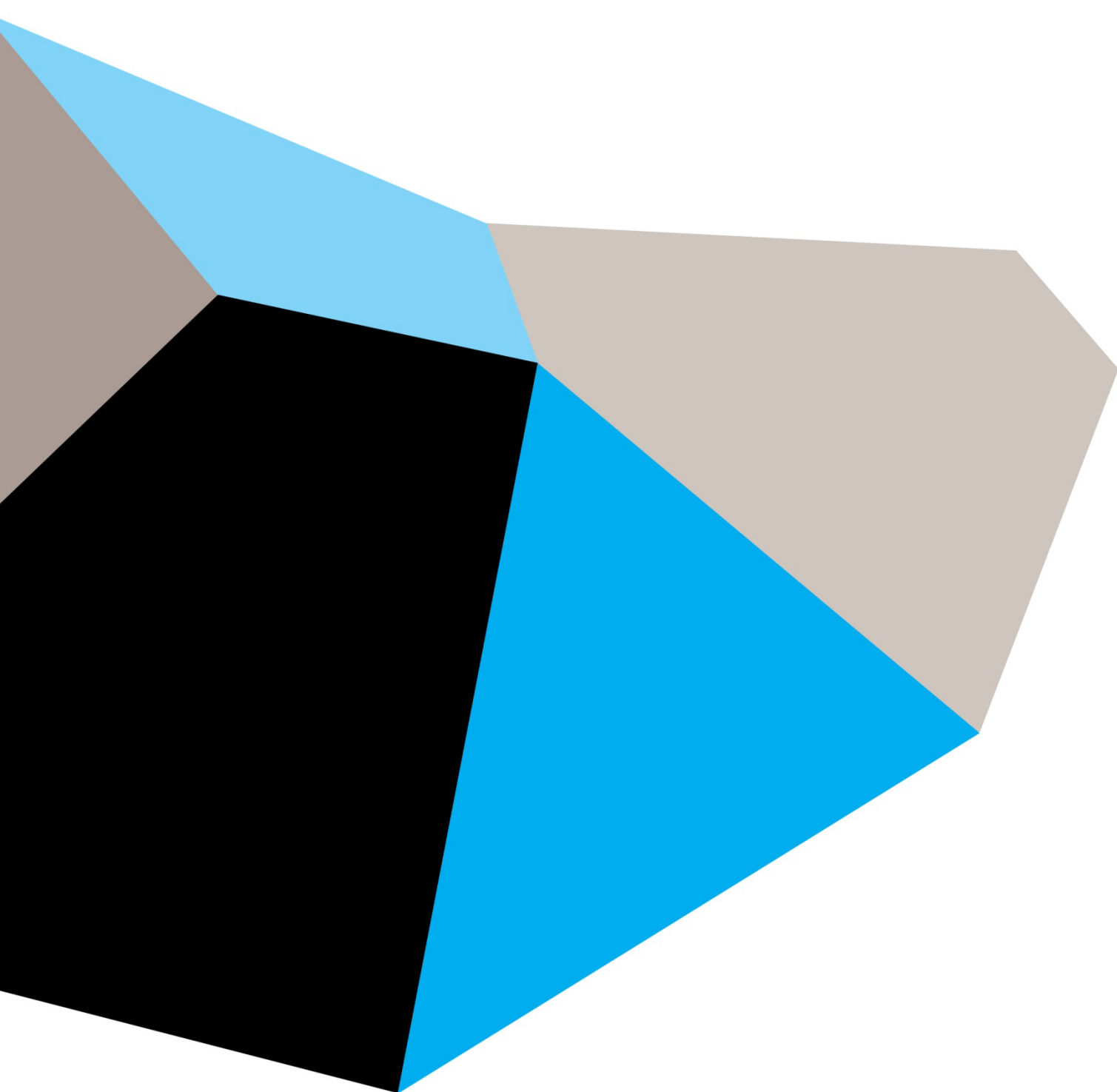
- 1. The Chief Executive Officer will invite nominations for the office of Mayor.
- 2. Any Councillor is eligible for election to the office of Mayor.
- 3. Nominations for Mayor do not require a seconder.
- 4. Any Councillor nominated may refuse nomination.
- 5. If there is only one nomination received the candidate nominated shall be declared elected.
- 6. Where two or more nominations are received, the method of voting shall be by show of hands and the Councillor with the absolute majority of votes cast will be declared elected.
- 7. Where there are two or more nominations and all votes cast equally divided between two or more nominees, the election must be determined by lot.

8. If no candidate receives an absolute majority of votes, the candidate with the least number of votes must be eliminated as a candidate and a further poll conducted between the remaining candidates. If there are several candidates, this procedure must be repeated until a candidate receives an absolute majority of votes and that candidate shall be declared elected.
9. If for the purpose of eliminating the candidate with the least number of votes, two or more candidates have the same least number of votes, the candidate to be eliminated shall be determined by simple majority vote.
10. If there is an equality of votes with respect to the candidate to be eliminated, the candidate to be eliminated shall then be determined by lot to be conducted by the Chief Executive Officer.

Clause 14 – Determining by Lot

If a lot is required, the Chief Executive Officer will conduct the lot and the following provisions will apply:

1. Each candidate shall draw one (1) lot.
2. The order of drawing lots shall be determined by the alphabetical order of the surname of the Councillors who received an equal number of votes, except that if two (2) or more such Councillors' surnames are identical, the order shall be determined by the alphabetical order of the Councillors' first names.
3. As many identical pieces of paper as there are Councillors who received an equal number of votes shall be placed in a receptacle by the Chief Executive Officer.
4. If the lot is being conducted to determine which candidate is a defeated candidate, the word "Defeated" shall be written on one (1) of the pieces of paper, and the Councillor who draws the paper with the word "Defeated" written on it shall be declared the defeated candidate (in which event a further vote shall be taken on the remaining candidates unless there is only one candidate remaining, in which case that candidate will be declared to have been duly elected).
5. If the lot is being conducted to determine which candidate is to be duly elected, the word "Elected" shall be written on one (1) of the pieces of paper, and the Councillor who draws the paper with the word "Elected" written on it shall be declared to have been duly elected.



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