

6.2.5 Deputy Mayor

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Recommendation(s)

That Council note the response to Notice of Motion 1074 that of the 79 Councils in Victoria 72 currently appoint a Deputy Mayor, five (5) Councils do not appoint a Deputy Mayor and have never had the practice of appointing a Deputy Mayor. In addition, two (2) Councils currently are under administration, these two Councils, when they have an elected Council, have previously appointed a Deputy Mayor.

Attachments

Nil

Executive Summary

Notice of Motion # 1074 lodged by Cr Carol Ryan was adopted at the June Council Meeting. This Notice of Motion read *'That council creates a report on the 'Deputy Mayor' role in the other 79 Victorian Councils. The report shall issue they have in it the statistics of whether a Council has or doesn't have a Deputy Mayor position at present. If they don't have a Deputy Mayor did they ever have one, and if discontinued when did they cease to have one.'*

This report responds to this Notice of Motion

Background

Following adoption of Notice of Motion 1074 Council staff researched the details available on the 'Know your Council' website and obtained details for all Councils in Victoria regarding the position of Deputy Mayor.

This research has revealed that:

- 72 Councils currently appoint a Deputy Mayor
- 5 Councils do not appoint a Deputy Mayor and have not previously done so, these include;
 - Pyrenees Shire
 - Northern Grampians Shire
 - Horsham Rural City
 - Central Goldfields Shire
 - Loddon Shire
- 2 Councils are currently under administration and do not have an elected Council. Prior to being dismissed both Council's had the practice of appointing a Deputy Mayor. These include;
 - Casey City Council
 - Whittlesea City Council

The position of Deputy Mayor was introduced by the Local Government Act 2020, the Act states that a Council 'may' establish an office of Deputy Mayor. Prior to the 2020 Act there was no provision for a legislated position of Deputy Mayor but some Councils did introduce such a role particularly to deputise for the Mayor if they were unavailable.

Policy Implications

Nil

Relevance to Council Plan

5.1 We practise responsible leadership

5.1.5 Champion the collective values of the community through the Councillors' governance of the shire.

Climate Emergency Consideration

There are no climate considerations as part of this report

Consultation/Communication

Council staff have consulted with the five Councils that do not currently appoint a Deputy Mayor and the response from these Councils has been that they have not previously had the practice of appointing a Deputy Mayor in the past.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial or resource implications as part of this report.

Conclusion

This report responds to Notice of Motion 1074, it is respectfully requested that Council note the details contained in this report regarding Deputy Mayors.