



| Policy Name                   | Casting Vote                            |  |
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| Council Decision (Reference): | OCM 74/2021                             |  |
| Classification:               | Governance Policy                       |  |
| Categorisation:               | Governance                              |  |
| Review Frequency:             | After the next general Council election |  |
| Review Date:                  | After the next general Council election |  |
| Responsible Officer:          | Executive Manager, Office of the CEO    |  |
| Version (Revision Number):    | 2.0                                     |  |

## 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to allow the Chairperson of a Council Meeting to cast a second vote (casting vote) on a question arising for decision at a Council Meeting in the event of an equality of votes.

## 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all ordinary council meetings of the West Arnhem Regional Council, for the term of the present Council. The policy will lapse at the conclusion of the next general election for the Council.

## 3. DEFINITIONS

In the context of this policy the following definitions apply:

**Casting Vote** means where there is an equal number of votes for and against a motion, the Chair is required to cast a second “casting vote” to break the tie.

## 4. POLICY STATEMENT

### Chairperson has a Casting Vote

If there is an equality of votes on a question arising for decision at a Council Meeting, the chairperson has a casting vote.

### Use of Casting Vote

In accordance with the *Local Government Act*, a casting vote is to be exercised by the Chairperson when there are equal votes on a question arising for decision at a Council Meeting. During such an occurrence, the casting vote will determine the vote. The Chairperson must exercise the casting vote either in favour or against the motion.

If there are unequal votes, the Chairperson cannot exercise a casting vote.



Pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, this policy cannot be altered or revoked for the term of the present Council. This policy will lapse at the conclusion of the next general election for the Council.

## 5. Responsibilities

The Chief Executive Officer is the Policy Custodian for this policy and is responsible for reviewing the operation of the policy (after the next general Council election), and for monitoring continuing relevance, effectiveness, and consistency with related documents and the Law.

Following approval of this policy document, the Director for Organisational Growth (or a nominated delegate) is also responsible for ensuring that the implementation and communication plan is implemented and that all Council employees have access to the policy.

## 6. Related Documents

### Legislation and References

Local Government Act 2019 (NT)

### Policy documents

Scheduling and Conduct of Meetings (Elected, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy

### Procedures

Nil

### Instructions, tools, guidelines, forms and templates

Nil

