

AGENDA:

Special Meeting of Buller District Council

Wednesday 17 July 2019
commencing at 4.30pm

at:

Clocktower Chambers:
Palmerston Street, Westport

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

17 JULY 2019

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BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

17 JULY 2019

Agenda Item No 1

Prepared by - Sharon Mason
- Chief Executive Officer

MEMBERS INTEREST

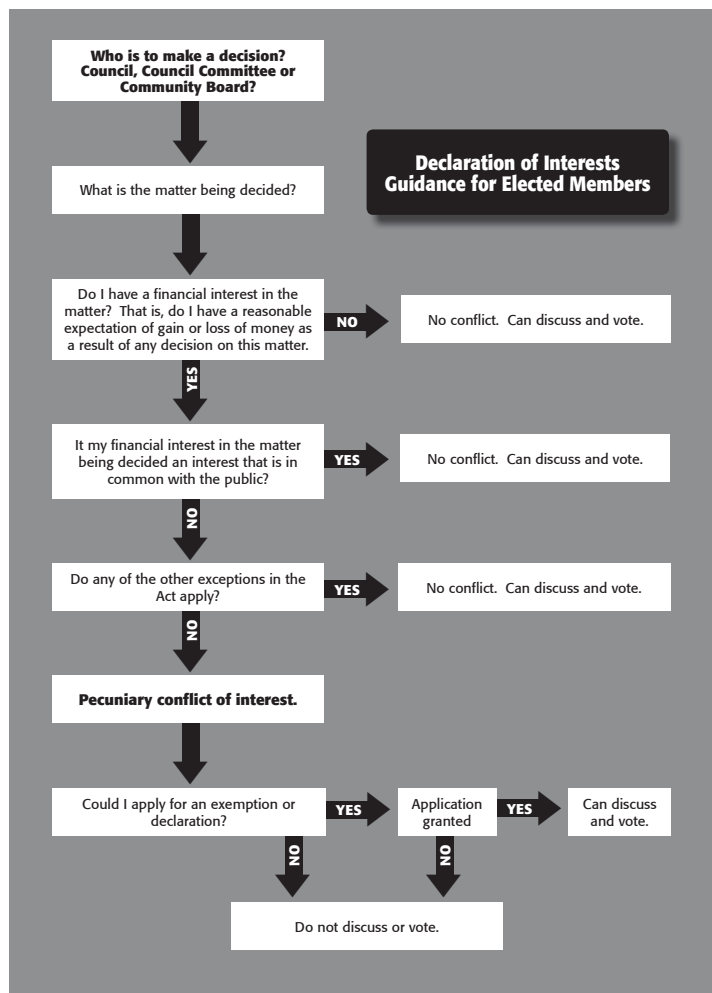
Councillors are encouraged to consider the items on the agenda and disclose whether they believe they have a financial or non-financial interest in any of the items in terms of Council's Code of Conduct.

Councillors are encouraged to advise the Executive Assistant to CEO, of any changes required to their declared Members Interest Register.

The follow flowchart may assist Councillors in making that determination (Appendix A from Code of Conduct).

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Councillors disclose any financial or non-financial interest in any of the agenda items.



BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

17 JULY 2019

Agenda Item No 2

Prepared by - John Rodger
- Electoral Officer

CONFIRMATION OF RESOLUTION

1. REPPORT SUMMARY

Council is required to confirm, within 30 days, the resolution made at its 26 June 2019 meeting regarding its appointment to fill the extraordinary vacancy created on the Council by a recent resignation.

As the next full monthly meeting is to be held on Wednesday 31 July 2019, which is outside this time frame, this special meeting has been called.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That the Council confirm its resolution of Wednesday 26 June 2019, which stated:

***RESOLVED that Council:
fill the vacancy with the next highest polling and agreeable candidate, Mr Andrew Basher.***

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

17 JULY 2019

Agenda Item No 3

Prepared by - Jenny Collins
- Deputy Electoral Officer

Reviewed by - John Rodger
- Electoral Officer

OPTIONAL ORDER OF CANDIDATES 2019

1. REPPORT SUMMARY

The Local Electoral Regulations 2001 (Regulation 31) allows Council the choice of three options for the order of candidates to appear on the voting paper. Council may determine, by a resolution, which order the candidates' names are to be arranged on the voting document.

It is not mandatory to make such a resolution, but if none is made, then the default option would be that the candidates' names would be appear in alphabetical order of the surname [Regulation 31(3)]. The resolution (if deemed necessary) must be made by 19 August 2019.

Therefore, the three choices are:

- (1) alphabetical order of surname;
- (2) pseudo-random order (ie one randomised order for all documents); or
- (3) random order (all documents have a different order).

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council retains the past use of the pseudo random order for the candidates in the elections for Buller District Mayor, Seddon/Inangahua/Westport ward Councillors, and the Inangahua Community Board.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

3.1. Strategic impact

Not significant in terms of general practice of Council.

3.2. Significance Assessment

For the past five (5) elections, Council has settled that for its own elections (i.e. Mayor, Council by wards, and the Inangahua Community Board) plus that for Development West Coast*, it be the second choice of pseudo-random order, and the Electoral Officer would (after the close of nominations) have the order of candidates determined at the police station by random selection by the constabulary.

(*It should be noted that Council's Electoral Officer is also the Electoral Officer for the Trust, and that they have agreed to follow the decision of the Council, whatever it may be.)

Although it has not been formally ratified for 2019 (at the time of writing), past practice has seen the West Coast Regional Council opt for (1) alphabetical order of surname, while the West Coast District Health Board has used (3) random order, for the past few elections (at least).

Even though all three choices have been produced on the voting papers for the past three elections (at least) in the Buller, the Electoral Officer has not observed any significant increase to the number of informal votes cast. Therefore any perception that such use of all three on the voting paper may be misleading to the voter is not considered significant.

It is more the use by the Ministry of Health for the election of its District Health Boards with the Single Transferable Vote system, that has caused problems for the voting public, but this is lessening over time as the constituency is educated into its use.

3.3. Risk Analysis

No risk anticipated.

3.4. Policy/Legal Considerations

As mentioned in the outline above, Council is not bound to make a resolution, but if not, the default system of alphabetical order must be used.

3.5. Tangata Whenua Considerations

No consultation is required with tangata whenua.

3.6. Views of those affected

No affected parties.

3.7. Costs

Printing costs would be higher for the option (3) random order, than the other two choices.

3.8. Benefits

There are no tangible benefits.

3.9. Media/Publicity

Once the decision has been made (or not, as the case may be), this would be relayed in the advertisement required under Section 65(1) of the Local Electoral Act when the full list of candidates is published after the close of nominations.