

PROPOSED NOTICE OF MOTION (Elected Members)

Name: Mayor Honourable George Gear

Date of Meeting: 18 February 2020

Meeting of the: Ordinary Meeting of Council

Subject: Review of Council Policy CP-014 – Public Question Time at Council or Committee Meetings

Disclaimer: Where administration has provided any assistance with the framing and/or wording of any motion/amendment to the Elected Member who has advised their intention to move it, the assistance has been provided on an impartial basis. The principle and intention expressed in any motion/amendment is solely that of the intended mover and not that of the officer/officers providing the assistance. Under no circumstance is it to be expressed to any party that administration or any officer holds a view on this motion other than that expressed in an official written or verbal report by administration to the Committee or Council meeting considering the motion.

PROPOSED NOTICE OF MOTION: CITY OF MELVILLE

That the Council review Council Policy CP104 – Public Question Time at Council or Committee Meetings to include a process for questions to be asked from the floor for a minimum of 15 minutes, with any extensions to be determined by the Presiding Member.

REASONS:

The Local Government Act stipulates that there has to be minimum of 15 minutes question time at ordinary council meetings. It is silent on how this is achieved.

It is proposed, that in addition to the existing method of submitting questions to Council and Committee meetings in writing, there is an opportunity provided for residents and ratepayers to verbally ask questions at meetings.

The questioner will be invited to fill out a form giving name and address and if possible the question they will ask. The Presiding Officer will then invite each questioner to ask their question, with the Presiding Member determining who is best placed to provide the answer. If a sufficient answer is unable to be provided then the question will be taken on notice and an answer will be provided in the minutes of the next meeting.

If there are no questions from the floor then the meeting will move to the next agenda item. If there are more questions than 15 minutes will accommodate the presiding officer will determine when question time will end.

SIGNATURE: _____

