

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Mayor and Councillors

**FROM:** Corporate Services Manager

**REFERENCE:**

**DATE:** 29 October 2009

**SUBJECT:** Director /Trustee appointment process

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## PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider amending Council's current director/trustee appointment process

## BACKGROUND

The existing procedure for the appointment of directors/trustees was adopted by both Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council in 2006 and involves the use of an advisory panel to obtain suitable candidates and prepare a short list for consideration by both councils.

At the joint shareholders group (the group) meeting of 18 September 2009 a staff report was considered that sought to change the way directors/trustees were appointed to joint council controlled organisations. After some discussion the group passed the following recommendation"

***That the draft procedure relating to the appointment of directors/trustees to the joint CCOs attached to document 82653 be adopted subject to clause 3.1.3 being deleted and an additional clause 7.1.2 being added stating, " It is noted that the councils have their own separate policies regarding the appointment of elected members as directors/trustees; Nelson City Council does not appoint current councillors to these positions, whereas it is the Tasman District Council's position to appoint the most appropriate person whether a current councillor or not.***

***AND THAT the adoption of this recommendation by one council be subject to its adoption by the other council.***

In the attached policy the new clause is noted as 7.1.1.

## **DISCUSSION**

The group has delegated responsibility to recommend the appointment of directors/trustees to the two councils and to undertake the appropriate investigations to formulate such a recommendation. The relevant staff or consultants can report directly to the group so the use of an advisory panel is considered unnecessary.

In addition it is considered undesirable for either council to hold CVs of unsuccessful candidates as it creates an expectation that an appointment may be forthcoming in due course whereas the candidate may never be considered for an appointment. CVs can also become outdated and candidates may relocate which can result in staff wasting time in attempting to contact likely candidates.

The attached policy is seen as less complicated and addresses the areas of concern noted above.

## **SIGNIFICANCE**

This report is not considered significant in accordance with council's significance policy

## **OPTIONS**

### **Option 1**

Reject the recommendation and, subject to suggested amendments, send this matter back to the combined shareholders group for further consideration.

### **Option 2**

Accept the recommendation as proposed.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the revised policy for the Appointment of Directors and Trustees dated September 2009 be adopted, subject to a similar resolution being adopted by the Nelson City Council.

M W Staite  
Corporate Services Manager