

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE	9
15 FEBRUARY 2012	

COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR MARCH AND APRIL 2012

S Godkin : sg : 1/3/87-08: # 3480828

RECOMMENDATION:

That:-

1. The schedule of meetings of Ordinary Council for March and April 2012 prior to the Local Government Election on 28 April 2012 will be as follows:

Wednesday, 7 March 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Wednesday, 21 March 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Wednesday 11 April 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Thursday 26 April 2012 (10:00 a.m.)

2. The public be notified accordingly of the new meeting dates.

INTRODUCTION:

This report is to recommend amendments to the meeting dates for March 2012 and to schedule Ordinary Council meetings for April 2012 due to the rescheduling of the Local Government Election from 31 March 2012 to 28 April 2012.

BACKGROUND:

At the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on 15 June 2011 it was resolved that the following dates for Council meetings be adopted for March 2012 as the Local Government Election was scheduled for 31 March 2012.

March 2012

Wednesday, 7 March 2012 (10.00 am)	Planning & Environment Committee
Wednesday, 7 March 2012 (following Planning & Environment Committee)	Sports, Arts, Culture & Community Services Committee
Wednesday, 14 March 2012 (10.00 am)	Finance & Administration Committee
Wednesday, 14 March 2012 (following Finance & Administration Committee)	Infrastructure Services Committee
Wednesday, 14 March 2012 (following Infrastructure Services Committee)	Water & Waste Committee
Wednesday, 14 March 2012 (2:00 pm)	Cairns Entertainment Precinct Committee
Wednesday, 21 March 2012 (10.00 am)	Ordinary Meeting

As a result of the State Government calling an election on 24 March 2012, the Local Government election has now been postponed until 28 April 2012. The caretaker period for the election will commence on 10 March 2012.

Due to the change in election dates it is recommended that the following dates now be adopted for Ordinary meetings of Council for March and April 2012:

Wednesday, 7 March 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Wednesday, 21 March 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Wednesday 11 April 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Thursday 26 April 2012 (10:00 a.m.)

CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:

Local Government Act 2009 – Local Government (Operations) Regulation 2010, Chapter 5 Administration, Part 2 Local government meetings and committees, section 55 and 74.

55 Notice of meetings

- (1) Written notice of each meeting or adjourned meeting of a local government must be given to each councillor at least 2 days before the day of the meeting unless it is impracticable to give the notice.
- (2) The written notice must state—
 - (a) the day and time of the meeting; and
 - (b) for a special meeting—the object of the meeting.
- (3) A *special meeting* is a meeting at which the only business that may be conducted is the business stated in the notice of meeting.
- (4) Despite subsection (1), the written notice must be given to each councillor of an indigenous regional council at least 4 days before the day of the meeting unless it is impracticable to give the notice.

74 Public notice of meetings

- (1) A local government must, at least once in each year, publish in a newspaper circulating generally in its area a notice of the days and times when its ordinary meetings, and the ordinary meetings of its standing committees, will be held.
- (2) The local government must display in a conspicuous place in its public office a notice of the days and times when—
 - (a) its meetings will be held; and
 - (b) meetings of its committees will be held.
- (3) The local government must immediately notify any change to the days and times mentioned in subsection (1) or (2) in the same way as the days and times were previously notified.
- (4) A list of the items to be discussed at a meeting mentioned in subsection (2) must be open to inspection at the time the agenda for the meeting is made available to councillors.
- (5) Subsection (4) does not affect the right to discuss or deal with, at any meeting, items arising after the agenda for the meeting is made available to councillors.

OPTIONS:

1. That the schedule of Ordinary meetings of Council for March and April 2012 prior to the Local Government Election on 28 April 2012 will be as follows:

Wednesday, 7 March 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Wednesday, 21 March 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Wednesday 11 April 2012 (10:00 a.m.)
 Thursday 26 April 2012 (10:00 a.m.)

2. That alternative dates are adopted.

CONCLUSION:

That the suggested schedule for Ordinary meetings of Council up to the Local Government Election on 28 April 2012 be adopted.

Linda Kirchner
General Manager Corporate Services