

TITLE:	Local Authorities Establishment Policy		
DIVISION:	Corporate		
ADOPTED BY:	Barkly Regional Council		
DATE OF ADOPTION:	23 November 2017	DATE OF REVIEW:	September 2021
MOTION NUMBER:	OC 187/17		
POLICY NUMBER:	CP000019		
AUTHORISED:	Barkly Regional Council		

THIS POLICY APPLIES TO:

All employees of the Barkly Regional Council and its Elected Members.

SUMMARY

The aim of all policy is for Councillors to provide strategic input into the effective operational framework of the organisation under S.11 of the Local Government Act. This Policy sets out arrangements for the establishment of Local Authorities. The policy includes definition of the area of each Authority, the nomination and appointment of Members, their term of office and the selection process.

OBJECTIVES

To facilitate the establishment of Local Authorities

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Act and relevant Ministerial Guidelines require the Council to establish and maintain local authorities with effect from July 1 2014. To achieve this the Council needs to have in place a policy which sets out how local authorities are to be established.

POLICY***Establishing the Area of Each Local Authority***

That the area for each local authority be defined as the community/township in which the local authority is based and other areas occupied by those Council residents who identify with that community/township for accessing services or for cultural reasons.

Number of Appointed Members

That as a general principle each Local Authority will have a maximum of seven (7) appointed members.

For the appointment of appointed members of the initial Authorities, subsequent Authorities and casual vacancies the following procedures will apply:

- The Council will call for nominations which must be advertised and promoted by appropriate means to ensure that residents of the relevant area are aware of it.

- A period of twenty-eight (28) days' notice must be given for nominations to be received.
- Persons ordinarily resident in the Local Authority area who are over the age of eighteen are eligible to be nominated.
- Nominations are to be made on a form approved by the CEO.
- Nominations are to be made by two people over the age of eighteen (18) who are ordinarily resident in the area of that Local Authority.
- The nomination form must include a signed statement by the person being nominated indicating that he or she consents to the nomination and is eligible to be appointed.
- Nominations are to be returnable to an Officer of the Council nominated by the CEO who is working in the area of the Local Authority (the Receiving Officer).
- On receipt of a valid nomination the Receiving Officer shall immediately transmit an electronic copy to the CEO.
- A person who has been nominated may withdraw his or her nomination at any time by notice in writing to the Receiving Officer who will then advise the CEO.
- As soon as practicable after the close of nominations, the CEO shall call a meeting of the Selection Panel for the purpose of considering the nominations received and making recommendations to Council for consideration at the first ordinary Council meeting after the close of nominations.

The Selection Process

A Selection Panel will be appointed for each Local Authority comprising: The CEO as Chairperson; Two Councillors from the Ward in which the authority is located; The Mayor or Mayor's nominee; and, a nominee of the CEO.

The Selection Panel will consider nominations and make recommendations to the first ordinary meeting of the Council to be held after the close of nominations.

Selection Panels need not physically meet – business can be conducted using electronic or other means at the Chair's discretion.

Term of Appointment

Appointments to the Local Authorities are for a term of two (2) years

Vacancies

Appointed membership position becomes vacant when a member resigns in writing or the appointment is revoked by the Council. Council will give consideration to revoking the appointment of an appointed member where a member is absent from two consecutive meetings of that Authority.

Appointments of the selection panels

- That (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Ali Curung Local Authority
- That (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Arlparra Local Authority
- That the Ward Councillor and a nominee of the Ward Councillor (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Alpururulam Local Authority
- That (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Ampilatwatja Local Authority

- That (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Elliott Local Authority
- That (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Tennant Creek Local Authority
- That (maximum of two positions) be appointed to the Selection Panel for the Wutunugurra Local Authority

RISK MANAGEMENT

In the implementation of the Barkly Regional Council policy development, all Elected Members, employees, Local Authority Members, Council Committee Members, communities and stakeholders are encouraged to communicate any risks they perceive to the Chief Executive Officer.

REFERENCES

Local Authorities Operations Policy

LEGISLATION & STANDARDS

Local Government Act (NT) – Section 48 – 53F
Guidelines 8

LINKS

https://legislation.nt.gov.au/LegislationPortal/Acts/By-Title#header_act_acc_L

RESPONSIBILITY & DELEGATION

CEO

EVALUATION AND REVIEW

Policy reviewed prior to each periodic election. Review date 30 June 2021