



depa Submission on the Draft Model Code of Meeting Practice

20 proposals we don't like

1. Oppose the deletion of 3.12, preferring the current arrangements where the general manager provides advice to councillors upon which they can make sound decisions.
2. Oppose the deletion of 3.13 and the related provisions proposing the deletion of 9.10 and 10.9, individually and collectively, that would compromise sound decision-making affecting the Council's finances.
3. Oppose the deletion of clause 3.15 which provides procedural fairness protection for the general manager and staff.
4. Hard to make an observation about proposed clause 3.27, if 3.25 requires all councillors to be present.
5. Oppose the deletion of 3.33 to 3.38 inclusive, these meetings provide briefings to ensure decisions are made by informed councillors.
6. Oppose 5.7, which will encourage more unregulated absences of councillors and challenge the Council's capacity to have a quorum.
7. Oppose 5.19, we support technology allowing participants to attend meetings.
8. Oppose 5.20, technology should be used to maximise attendance and participation.
9. Support LGNSW proposed amendment to 5.32 to acknowledge legal protections designed to prohibit certain people, for good reasons, from attending meetings. There are too many already in local government.
10. Oppose 5.43, this is the general manager's responsibility, but we do support the proposed amendment by LGNSW.
11. Oppose the deletion of 5.44.
12. Oppose 7.1, this is 2025, are there later proposals about flogging the serfs? And while we are dealing with anachronisms...
13. Why do we need gender specific prefixes to address the Mayor or the Chair? Why can't the Chair be addressed as "Mayor" or "Chair", consistent with the way councillors are addressed? This is not just a question, it is our proposal.

14. Oppose 9.18. What a joke.
15. Oppose 10.17, a well-respected historic practice that should not change.
16. Support LGNSW proposed amendment to 10.18.
17. Oppose 12.2, insensitive to those unable to stand.
18. Oppose proposed 14.19 and 14.20, how does confidential information cease to become confidential?
19. Support LGNSW proposed amendment to 15.10(d) and (e), it's time to improve the behaviour of councillors.
20. Oppose 20.20, see earlier observation on how confidential business papers cease to be confidential.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

