

# **Policy Committee**

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**TO** Council  
**FROM** Glenn Leach - Mayor  
**DATE** 1 December 2014  
**SUBJECT** **Policy Committee**

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## **1 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the report is to recommend the disbandment of the Council's Policy Committee.

## **2 Background**

The Policy Committee was formed at the beginning of the current term as one of the standing committees to join the Council and its five Community Boards to provide governance for council functions and services. The standing committees included the Audit Committee, Economic Development Committee, Infrastructure Committee, Judicial Committee, Resource Consent Hearing Committee, District Licensing Committee and the District Plan Hearing Committee.

Since its formation the Policy Committee has met twice (December 2013 and May 2014). All of the standing committees have policy development for their portfolio area within their terms of reference. Planning was not included in the terms of reference for the Policy Committee as was the case in previous terms (when called the Policy and Planning Committee). Oversight for the development of the 2015 Long Term Plan has been delegated to the Mayor's Plus forum and the full Council and Community Board Chairs have been involved in the long term plan development workshops.

The Policy Committee members are Councillor Goudie (Chairperson), Councillor Connors, Councillor Wells, Councillor Bartley.

## **3 Issue**

The combined committees' terms of reference has reduced the scope of work available for the Policy Committee and few meetings have been held this term. Political guidance for early policy development work can be delivered by the Mayor's Plus forum, under the new legislative provisions for the Mayor.

## **4 Discussion**

Disbanding the Policy Committee will clarify the workload for those committee members and the meeting schedule for councillors and staff alike. One councillor salary is affected by disbanding the Committee with the Chairperson returning to the councillor base salary provided within the elected members' determination.

## **5 Suggested Resolution(s)**

That the Thames-Coromandel District Council:

1. Receives the 'Policy Committee' report, dated 1 December 2014.
2. Disbands the Council's Policy Committee effective immediately; and
3. Reduces Councilor Goudie's remuneration from the Committee Chair rate to the Councillor rate effective immediately.