

Speaking rights - Economic Development Committee Chairperson

TO	Thames-Coromandel District Council
FROM	Ben Day - Deputy CEO
DATE	6 March 2015
SUBJECT	Speaking rights - Economic Development Committee Chairperson

1 Purpose of report

To request Council give the Economic Development Committee Chairperson speaking rights at the Council meetings and approve reimbursement.

2 Background

The Mayor has invited the Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee to attend the six-weekly scheduled formal Council meetings in order to support the Council's focus on economic development through integrated decision making. This would not include meetings for hearings that are scheduled as required for formal consultation processes.

The Council reimburses its external members on its Audit and Economic Development Committees. Both committees' terms of reference note that 'external members and advisors to the Committee will be reimbursed in accordance with their standard business rates, including disbursements.'

3 Issue

Under Standing Orders the Council must resolve to give non-members speaking rights at Council meetings.

Reimbursement for the Economic Development Committee Chairperson's time for attending the Council meeting requires approval by the Council. Staff recommend that the Economic Development budget be utilised as the intent of the Chairperson's attendance is to enhance the Council's economic development focus.

4 Discussion

The Council can resolve to give speaking rights for the remainder of the term or at the commencement of each of the Council meetings.

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Thames-Coromandel District Council:

1. Receives the 'Speaking rights - Economic Development Committee Chairperson' report, dated 6 March 2015.
2. Gives speaking rights to the Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee for formal scheduled Council meetings (not hearings) for the remainder of the 2013-2016 electoral term.
3. Approves reimbursement for the Chairperson's time at the same rate agreed for reimbursement of attending Economic Development Committee meetings, to be funded from the Economic Development budget.