

1.1 Leave of absence request - Paul Kelly

TO Mercury Bay Community Board
FROM Angela Jane - Governance and Strategy Group Manager
DATE 25 September 2018
SUBJECT Leave of absence request - Paul Kelly

1 Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to seek a leave of absence for Community Board Chairperson Paul Kelly.

2 Background

A leave of absence has been requested by Paul Kelly, Chairperson of the Mercury Bay Community Board - Attachment A.

A leave of absence is traditionally requested for absences longer than one meeting cycle. Once a leave of absence has been granted then meeting minutes note an apology from the member absent. Standing Orders notes that a council, local board or community board may grant a member leave of absence following an application from that member.

A leave of absence is required to avoid an extraordinary vacancy in the event that a member is absent for 4 or more consecutive meetings, as referenced in Section 5 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

5 Extraordinary vacancies

- (1) The office of a member of a local authority becomes vacant, and the vacancy that is created is an extraordinary vacancy, if the member—
 - (a) dies; or
 - (b) becomes subject to a property order made under Section 31 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988; or
 - (c) is disqualified from, or is ousted from, office; or
 - (d) is absent without leave of the local authority from 4 consecutive meetings (other than extraordinary meetings) of the local authority; or
 - (e) resigns under clause 4.

3 Issue

The Community Board may grant a member leave of absence following an application from a member.

4 Discussion

The leave of absence request from Paul Kelly does not provide a timeframe. The length of Paul's convalescence was not known at the time Paul wrote the request. Staff suggest that a leave of absence be granted to end of October 2018 which would allow Paul to chair the November Community Board meeting and not be compelled to attend the 30 October Council meeting.

The leave of absence can be ended at an earlier date if Paul is able to attend to his Chairperson duties and can be extended, if required. with a further request from Paul.

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Mercury Bay Community Board:

1. Receives the 'Leave of absence request - Paul Kelly' report, dated 25 September 2018.
2. Approves a leave of absence for Paul Kelly for the period ending 31 October 2018.

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A *Request for leave of absence*