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1. Statement

Ipswich City Council (Council) is committed to upholding good governance practices to ensure it delivers exemplary service to the Ipswich community to whom it is ultimately accountable.

2. Purpose and Principles

This policy supports the principles of Council's Good Governance Guide which is an explanatory document that details Council's approach to the implementation of the principles contained in the *Local Government Act 2009* and demonstrates its commitment to transparency, accountability and ethical behavior.

Council prepares and publishes an annual report that provides an overview of its activities during the financial year as well as its progress towards achieving the city vision as outlined in corporate publications published on Council's website at www.ipswich.qld.gov.au

These corporate publications provide residents with an opportunity to gain a clear oversight of Council's commitment to good decision-making in the public interest.

The integrity principles which underpin Council's Good Governance Guide are:

- Transparency;
- Accountability;
- Following the rule of law;
- Responsiveness;
- Participatory;
- Equitability and inclusivity;
- Effectiveness and efficiency.

The principles will be achieved through:

- Clearly defined roles, responsibilities and relationships;
- Developing strategic and operational plans to guide the delivery of projects;
- Fair, rational, informed and transparent decision making;
- Compliance with Council's legal obligations;
- Fostering a constructive and ethical culture within Council.

3. Strategic Plan Links

This policy aligns with the following iFuture 2021-2026 Corporate Plan theme:

- A Trusted and Leading Organisation

4. Regulatory Authority

Local Government Act 2009
Public Sector Ethics Act 1994

Related Documents

Good Governance Guide
 Community Engagement Policy
 Customer Service Policy

5. Human Rights Commitment

Ipswich City Council (Council) has considered the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)* (the Act) when adopting and/or amending this policy. When applying this policy, Council will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to a human right relevant to the decision in accordance with the Act.

6. Scope

This policy applies to all Councillors, Council employees, contractors, volunteers and others that act on Council’s behalf to ensure compliance with Council’s commitment to good governance in the execution of their duties.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

Elected representatives in partnership with the Executive Leadership Team play a key role in leading the direction of Council through the demonstration of ethical behaviour and positive reinforcement of accountability and transparency through adherence to Council’s policy standards.

Council’s Legal and Governance Branch are responsible for the ongoing management of the Good Governance Guide and for promoting good governance practices within Council’s operations and embedding good governance in the organisation’s culture.

All employees are responsible for seeking to embed good governance practices while carrying out their roles.

8. Key Stakeholders

- Mayor, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team
- Legal and Governance Branch
- People and Culture Branch
- Internal Audit
- Performance Branch
- Community Engagement Branch

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation measures will be as follows:

- Internal audit findings of improved governance practices;
- Good governance is practiced by the leadership team and they are active in promoting this to employees;
- Good governance is practiced by the Mayor and Councillors;
- Analysis of complaints or grievances related to poor governance practices;
- General awareness and sentiment of staff;
- Community sentiment.

10. Policy Owner

The General Manager (Corporate Services) is the policy owner and the Corporate Governance Manager is responsible for authoring and reviewing this policy.