

HEAD OF POWER

Local Government Act 2009, section 4(2)(a) and (c)

INTENT

The purpose of this policy is to establish principles for community engagement and to ensure Council's community and stakeholder engagement practices align with statutory requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees, Councillors and Councillor Advisor.

DEFINITIONS

Employee means a local government employee as defined in the *Local Government Act 2009*.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Community engagement involves different approaches depending on the levels of interaction, roles and relationships, objectives and the outcomes sought of a particular project or program.

INFORMATION
One-way relationship

CONSULTATION
Two-way relationship

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
Partner relationship

Increasing level of engagement and community influence

Council's roles: *service provider, funder, regulator, advocate, facilitator, strategic partner*

Community's roles: *service receiver, supporter, enabler, strategic partner, organiser*

2. When undertaking community engagement for significant projects or programs, engagement activities will be clearly scoped and communicated to stakeholders.
3. Where appropriate, Council will collaborate with other agencies and organisations to coordinate engagement activities at local and regional levels.
4. Council will be transparent and inclusive in its community engagement.
5. The aim with engagement activity will be to develop confidence in the process, encourage stakeholder participation and generate a shared sense of ownership and commitment.
6. Council will provide feedback to stakeholders to demonstrate how their input has influenced the outcome.

7. Council will encourage innovation and best practice in engagement, strive for continuous improvement and monitor and measure the effectiveness of engagement activities.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Bundaberg Regional Council's Corporate Plan – 2021-2026
- Bundaberg Regional Council's Communications Plan – 2022-2024

DOCUMENTS CONTROLS

Council will review this policy biennially or in response to changes in law or best practice.

POLICY OWNER

Manager Strategic Projects.