

1. POLICY CERTIFICATION

Policy title:	Good Governance
Policy number:	ADM014
Category:	Policy
Classification:	Administration
Status:	Approved

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Guide the Council and senior management in meeting the increasing governance requirements
- Establish a vision, mission, organisational values and annual strategic plan.
- Apply best practice principles to governance and ensure they underpin the operations of Roper Gulf Regional Council
- Develop a culture which embraces a proactive response to changing community needs.
- Be politically aware and active in the interests of the community through the development of strategic partnerships and alliances.
- Incorporate sound financial modelling to ensure organisational viability and sustainability.
- Provide the Chief Executive Officer with support and scope to develop and implement and monitor the Strategic Plan.
- Promote a Customer Focus as the core of the organisation's operations
- Promote Continuous Quality Improvement.
- Ensure legislative compliance

3. ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE

This policy applies to all Employees, Councillors and Local Authorities of Roper Gulf Regional Council.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

Roper Gulf Regional Council is committed to sound governance and leadership to ensure an effective operational framework of the organisation under S.11 of the Local Government Act are implemented in service of the community.

Roper Gulf Regional Council will ensure that the organisation's values, vision, mission, leadership and strategic directions will be cognisant of the Local Government Act, organisational values, and service priorities.

This Policy sets out the broad principles and practices that will be used to ensure corporate governance. One of the key roles of the Council is to ensure that Roper Gulf Regional Council

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has an appropriate and effective system of corporate governance, which sets out the way in which the Council oversees the activities of the organisation and ensures that the Chief Executive Officer, Directors and managers, to whom the Council delegates many functions, are accountable.

A good system of corporate governance enables areas of responsibility to be clearly defined and provides assurance that risk is being managed in an effective way. Corporate governance challenges every aspect of Council activity, including composition, role, practices and processes.

The characteristics of good governance are:

- It is participatory
- It is consensus-oriented
- It is accountable
- It is transparent
- It is responsive
- It is effective and efficient
- It is equitable and inclusive
- It is law-abiding

The governance priorities of the Council are to:

- Maintain financial viability
- Comply with all relevant laws and regulations
- Report in an open and transparent manner on performance to the wider community
- Engage with community stakeholders both internal and external on the organisation’s strategic intent
- Continually improve performance across all areas of the organisation by establishing appropriate objectives, key performance indicators and systems against which to monitor performance
- Reflect on performance and learn from it

5. DEFINITIONS

Governance	Refers to the processes by which organisations are directed, controlled and held to account. It encompasses authority, accountability, stewardship, leadership, direction and control exercised in the organisation.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
Organisation	Roper Gulf Regional Council

6. PRINCIPLES

6.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The Council will:

- Ensure, in partnership with the CEO, that the Council has appropriate knowledge and skills to provide leadership to Roper Gulf Regional Council.
- Ensure that a CEO is engaged by the Council in accordance with the Local Government Act.
- Undertake an annual review of the performance of the CEO.
- Ensure the requirements of the Local Government Act are met by the Council.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will:

- Facilitate appropriate skills based leadership which supports the values and vision, mission of Roper Gulf Regional Council.

The responsibilities of the Council that cannot be delegated to any other person or body include:

- Compliance monitoring – ensuring compliance with the objects, purposes and values of the organisation, and with Local Government Act.
- Organisational governance – setting or approving overarching policies, plans and budgets to achieve those objectives, and monitoring performance against the strategic plan.
- Strategic planning – reviewing and approving strategic direction and initiatives.
- Regulatory monitoring – ensuring that the organisation complies with all relevant laws, regulations and regulatory requirements.
- Financial monitoring – reviewing the organisation’s budget, monitoring management and financial performance to ensure the solvency, financial strength and good performance of the organisation.
- Organisational structure – setting and maintaining a framework of delegation and internal control.
- Risk management – reviewing and monitoring the effectiveness of risk management and compliance in the organisation; agreeing or ratifying all policies and decisions on matters which might create significant risk to the organisation, financial or otherwise.
- Social and environmental responsibility – considering the social, ethical and environmental impact of all activities and operations and ensuring that these are acceptable.
- Council performance and composition – evaluating and improving the performance of the Council.

7. REFERENCES

Acknowledgements (original author/source documents)	Babyboomers Pty Ltd licenced template 2016
Related Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Management Policy • Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy

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Related Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Act • Strategic Plan
Relevant Forms	

8. DOCUMENT CONTROL

Policy number	ADM014
Policy Owner	Director Corporate Governance
Endorsed by	Ordinary Meeting of Council
Date approved	27 July 2016
Revisions	
Amendments	
Next revision due	July 2018

9. CONTACT PERSON

Contact person	Manager Governance and Corporate Planning
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