

GOV014 – Good Governance Policy

1. POLICY CERTIFICATION

Policy title:	Good Governance
Policy number:	GOV014
Category:	Policy
Classification:	Governance
Status:	Approved

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set out Roper Gulf Regional Council's (RGRC) commitment to fulfilling its primary role as prescribed by s11 of the *Local Government Act*.

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 and meeting its principle function as prescribed by s11 of the *Local Government Act*.

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 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:

- Uphold the public interest;
- The safety and wellbeing of its residents;

GOV014 – Good Governance Policy

- Comply with applicable law;
- Deliver services to maintain and improve the safety and wellbeing of its residents;
- Maintain financial viability;
- 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, and mission of Roper Gulf Regional Council.

The responsibilities of the Council that can be delegated to the CEO, and subsequently to other staff members through the Organisational structure include:

- Compliance monitoring – ensuring compliance with the objects, purposes and values of the Organisation, and with *Local Government Act* and all applicable law.
- to achieve those objectives, and monitoring performance against the strategic plan.
- Regulatory monitoring – ensuring that the Organisation complies with all applicable law.
- 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.

GOV014 – Good Governance Policy

7. REFERENCES

Acknowledgements (original author/source documents)	
Related Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOV023 Risk Management Policy
Related Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Government Act</i> • <i>Information Act</i>
Relevant Forms	

8. DOCUMENT CONTROL

Policy number	GOV014
Policy Owner	Director Corporate Governance
Endorsed by	Ordinary Meeting of Council
Date approved	27 July 2016, 23 August 2017
Revisions	July 2017
Amendments	July 2017
Next revision due	June 2021

9. CONTACT PERSON

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