

PURPOSE

- 1) The purpose of this Policy is to provide Council with a framework for managing the procurement function that ensures compliance with statutory requirements, efficient and effective processes, and a reduction to the risk of fraud and corruption.

SCOPE

- 2) This policy applies to all Councillors and employees and covers all procurement activities that result in the commitment and expenditure of Council funds and the disposal of assets.
- 3) Council has adopted the default contracting procedures as outlined in Chapter 6, Part 3 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Council	Means North Burnett Regional Council.
Employee	Means all employees of Council, whether employed on a permanent, temporary, or part-time basis and includes volunteers, contractors and their employees
Financial Delegation	Means a formal delegation allowing an employee to authorise / approve expenditure or reimbursement of money within an approved budget and delegation limit.
Local Business	Means a supplier that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is beneficially owned and operated by persons who are residents or ratepayers of the Council area; or• Is a registered business or individual that has a principal place of business within the Council area; or• Has a place of business within the Council area which solely or primarily employs persons who are residents or ratepayers of the Council area.

POLICY

OBJECTIVES

- 4) The objectives of this Procurement Policy are to:
 - a) Ensure compliance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*;
 - b) Conduct Council procurement within a sound governance and probity environment; and
 - c) Support the cost-effective and timely delivery of Council's capital works, operational and service delivery programs.

PRINCIPLES

- 5) The *Local Government Act 2009* sets out "sound contracting principles" that Council is to have regard to when entering into a contract being:
 - a) Value for money;
 - b) Open and effective competition;
 - c) The development of competitive local business and industry;
 - d) Environmental protection; and
 - e) Ethical behaviour and fair dealing.

POLICY STATEMENT

6) Matters that are to be considered in any Council procurement are outlined below.

Value for Money

7) Council aims to obtain Value for Money in its procurement in that the goods, equipment or services being procured represent the best return and performance for the money spent from a “total cost of ownership” or “whole-of-life costs” perspective. The result of using such an evaluation methodology to assess value for money may not necessarily favour the lowest price. All impacts of entering into a contract at a particular price must be considered.

Open and Effective Competition

8) Council promotes Open and Effective Competition by:

- a) Procurement procedures and processes being available to Council suppliers and the public (i.e. rate payers and the local community);
- b) Suppliers having real opportunity to do business with Council.
- c) Invitations to suppliers being arranged so that there is competition among suppliers to provide value for money offerings; and
- d) Fair and equitable assessment of all offers to supply.

Development of Competitive Local Business and Industry

9) Council encourages development of competitive local business and industry by:

- a) Actively seeking out potential local supplies and suppliers and where applicable, encourage local business to provide a quote;
- b) Encouraging principal contractors to give local suppliers every opportunity, to participate in major projects as partners or subcontractors;
- c) Giving preference to locally sourced goods and services, where price, performance, quality, suitability and other evaluation criteria are comparable;
- d) Ensuring that payments are prompt and in accordance with the agreed terms of contract; and
- e) Giving consideration to the advantages of buying locally sourced goods and services, and to dealing with local suppliers, including:
 - i) Spare parts and servicing support are more readily available;
 - ii) Compliance with warranty provisions is more reliable;
 - iii) Supply lines are shorter; and
 - iv) Communications for contract administration are more convenient.

Local Preference

10) A local business preferential weighting to the evaluation criteria of a procurement assessment is to be applied at the following rates:

- 10% weighting for local benefits in all tender evaluations.

Local benefit is defined in accordance with the following table.

Score (Out of 5)	Local Suppliers / Contractor	Score (Out of 5)	Local Content
5	Main office within North Burnett	5	85 – 100% of content is sourced from within the North Burnett Region
4	Branch office within North Burnett	4	60 – 84% of content from within the North Burnett Region
3	Local subcontractor (s) or employees conducting the majority of works	3	45 – 59% of content from within the North Burnett Region

2	Adjacent Local Government businesses (Banana, South Burnett, Western Downs, Gympie, Bundaberg, Gladstone, Fraser Coast)	2	40 – 44% of content from within the North Burnett Region
1	All Other QLD locations	1	1 – 39% of content from within the North Burnett Region
0	All Others	0	0% of content from within the North Burnett Region

Environmental Protection

- 11) Council promotes environmental protection through its procurement activities. In undertaking any procurement activities, the Council will:
- Prefer the purchase of environmentally friendly goods and services that satisfy value for money criteria when the environmental cost is included;
 - Foster the development of products and processes of low environmental and climatic impact;
 - Provide an example to business, industry and the community by promoting the use of climatically and environmentally friendly goods and services; and
 - Encourage environmentally responsible activities.

Ethical Behaviour and Fair Dealing

- 12) Council supports Ethical Behaviour and Fair Dealing by:
- Developing systems and procedures that ensure a consistent, ethical and fair approach to procurement and allows for the transparent disclosure of conflicts of interest; and
 - Promoting professional, ethical and fair procurement practice

PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

- 13) Procedures that apply to all Council procurement are outlined in the associated Procurement Procedures ensuring the adherence to the procurement principles set out in the legislation. Council officers are to be fully informed of the requirements under the legislation and to ensure they adopt a standard approach to procurement activities.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Delegations

- 14) Delegated officers are responsible for ensuring that only approved items are acquired against programs and that expenditure is only committed where it is within the constraints of the budget or Council resolution.
- 15) Delegated officers can commit Council funds by:
- Authorising payment of progress claims for contract works;
 - Authorising purchase requisitions;
 - Authorising payment request forms;
 - Authorising corporate card purchases; and
 - Entering into a contract or contractual arrangement.
- 16) Financial delegations shall be limited to those delegations have been granted in accordance with the parameters listed in Council's Delegations register.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

- 17) Applicable legislation and regulation:
- Local Government Act 2009*

b) *Local Government Regulation 2012*

RELATED DOCUMENTS

18) Related documents are:

- a) Procurement Procedures.
- b) Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
- c) Deed of Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

Chief Executive Officer

APPROVAL DATE

28 June 2023

REVIEW DATE

June 2024 (Annual Review)

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Meeting	Approval Date	History
1	General Meeting	22/07/2020	New policy and separate procedures
2	General Meeting	27/06/2022	Revised for 2022/2023
3	General Meeting	28/06/2023	Reviewed for 2023/2024 - No change