

# LACHLAN SHIRE COUNCIL

## **RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY**

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Further Information: Lachlan Shire Council   ■ 02 6895 1900   Email: <a href="mailto:council@lachlan.nsw.gov.au">council@lachlan.nsw.gov.au</a>						
Version:	Adopted:	Resolution:	Commencement Date:	Last Review Date:	Next Review Date:	Content Manager Ref:
2	20/03/2024	2024/38	June 2017	March 2024	March 2028	D24/9648

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#### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to express Lachlan Shire Council's commitment to implementing organisation-wide risk management principles, systems and processes that ensure the consistent, efficient and effective assessment of risk in all council's planning, decision-making and operational processes.

#### 2. RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Lachlan Shire Council provides critical services and infrastructure to the residents, ratepayers and visitors to the Lachlan Shire area. Council also has service agreements and contractual obligations with government and non-government agencies and organisations and has its own strategic goals and objectives that it seeks to achieve on behalf of the Lachlan Shire community.

It is therefore incumbent on council to understand the internal and external risks that may impact the delivery of these services, contracts and strategic objectives and have processes in place to identify, mitigate, manage and monitor those risks to ensure the best outcome for council's staff and the community. It is also our responsibility to ensure the efficient, effective and ethical use of resources and services by ratepayers, residents, staff and visitors.

Council has developed a risk management framework consistent with Australian Standard ISO:31000 to assist it to identify, treat, monitor and review all risks to its operations and strategic objectives and apply appropriate internal controls.

Council is committed to the principles, framework and process of managing risk as outlined in Australian Standard ISO:31000 and commits to fully integrating risk management within the council and applying it to all decision-making, functions, services and activities of the council in accordance with our statutory requirements.

#### 3. RESPONSIBILITIES

Council aims to create a positive risk management culture where risk management is integrated into all everyday activities and managing risks is an integral part of governance, good management practice and decision-making at council. It is the responsibility of every staff member and business area to observe and implement this policy and council's risk management framework.

All staff are responsible for identifying and managing risk within their work areas. Key responsibilities include:

- being familiar with, and understanding, the principles of risk management
- complying with all policies, procedures and practices relating to risk management
- · alerting management to risks that exist within their area, and
- performing any risk management activities assigned to them as part of their daily role.

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Risk management is a core responsibility for all senior staff/management at council. In addition to their responsibilities as staff members, senior staff/management are responsible for:

- ensuring all staff manage their risks within their own work areas. Risks should be anticipated, and reasonable protective measures taken
- encouraging openness and honesty in the reporting and escalation of risks
- ensuring all staff have the appropriate capability to perform their risk management roles
- reporting to the general manager on the status of risks and controls, and
- identifying and communicating improvements in council's risk management practices to council's risk management function.

Council's risk management function is available to support staff in undertaking their risk management activities.

To ensure council is effectively managing its risk and complying with its statutory obligations, council's audit, risk and improvement committee and internal audit function is responsible for reviewing the council's:

- risk management processes and procedures
- risk management strategies for major projects or undertakings
- control environment and insurance arrangements
- business continuity planning arrangements, and
- fraud control plan.

#### 4. MONITORING AND REVIEW

Council is committed to continually improving its ability to manage risk. Council will review this policy and its risk management framework at least annually to ensure it continues to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, and the council's requirements.

#### 5. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on council's risk management policy, framework and process, contact council by email <a href="mailto:council@lachlan.nsw.gov.au">council@lachlan.nsw.gov.au</a> or by phone 02 68951900.

Signed		(General Manager)
Name	Greg Tory	
Date	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	
Review Date:	March 2028	

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