

# POLICY



**Date approved:** 04/12/2019  
**File No:** 1163782-1  
**Minute number:** 187/2019

**Policy Title:** **DECISION MAKING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST**  
**Directorate:** ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES  
**Branch:** CORPORATE GOVERNANCE  
**Policy objective:** To equip councillors with the tools to make good decisions in the public interest.

**Policy scope:**

This policy applies to all decisions made by councillors of the Logan City Council (Council) to uphold the local government principles of the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act).

**Definitions:**

Not applicable

**Policy statement:**

1. Under the Act, councillors must represent the current and future interests of residents in a way serves the overall public interest of the whole of Logan city.
2. Every action by a councillor must be taken in a way which is consistent with the five local government principles of the Act, which are:
  - (i) transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest; and
  - (ii) sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services; and
  - (iii) democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement; and
  - (iv) good governance of, and by, local government; and
  - (v) ethical and legal behaviour of councillors and local government employees.
3. Decision making is a fundamental part of a councillor's duties when undertaking their responsibilities under the Act.
4. The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework (Decision Making Framework) to equip councillors in making decisions in accordance with the local government principles.
5. The decision making principles in the framework (Decision Making Principles) have been derived from the rules of administrative law and established theory surrounding good decision making in the public interest. They are:
  - Bringing an open and impartial mind to a decision
  - Ensuring the decision is lawful
  - Having all the relevant materials and facts available to make an informed decision
  - Ensuring the decision is reasonable and based on evidence
  - Considering the impact the decision will have on the community
  - Considering the impact the decision will have on Council's finances
  - Considering how the decision aligns with Council's long-term direction

6. Councillors should have regard to the Decision Making Principles when making any decision.

**Related policies/legislation/other documents:**

<b>DOC ID</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NAME</b>
		Logan City Council Decision Making Framework
		<i>Local Government Act 2009</i>