

POLICY

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| TITLE: | ACCOUNTABLE FORMS (Council Members and CEO) | | |
| DIVISION: | COUNCIL | | |
| ADOPTED BY: | COUNCIL | | |
| DATE OF ADOPTION: | MAY 2023 | DATE OF REVIEW: | MAY 2028 |
| MOTION NUMBER: | | | |
| POLICY NUMBER: | CP81 | | |
| LEGISLATIVE REF: | Regulation 6(d)(iii) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> | | |

THIS POLICY APPLIES TO: Council Members and CEO

1. Purpose

To ensure the proper use and management of accountable forms issued to members and the CEO for the purposes of conducting council business.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

Authorised delegate means any staff member within Council who has been delegated appropriate authority by the CEO to undertake the specified function on the CEO's behalf.

Member includes council members, committee members and local authority members.

3. Principles

Council is committed to the safe custody, provision and proper use of accountable forms by members and the CEO whilst conducting council business.

Members and the CEO are required to apply good judgement for all expenditure incurred whilst conducting council business.

4. Application of policy

4.1 Accountable forms

Accountable forms are readily negotiable financial instruments, other than cash, that can be used as a method of payment for expenditure (e.g. cheques, taxi vouchers, travel vouchers, sport vouchers or meal vouchers).

All accountable forms need to be carefully monitored and safeguarded due to their inherent risk of theft, fraud, loss or misuse.

4.2 Responsibilities of members and the CEO

All members and the CEO are responsible for ensuring that accountable forms are only used in the course of conducting official council business. Accountable forms must not be used for private purposes.

In the event an accountable form is inadvertently used for private purposes, the full value of the transaction must be reimbursed to Council within 14 business days.

Accountable forms may only be used by the individual member or CEO who has been issued with the accountable form. A member or the CEO must not pass the accountable form to any other individual for use.

Once an accountable form has been used, the member must keep a copy of the receipt and invoice and submit this to the CEO (or the authorised delegate). Details of the nature of council business, date and time of use of the accountable form should also be provided.

When an accountable form is used by the CEO, the CEO must also retain a copy of the receipt and invoice and submit this to the delegated officer along with details of the nature of council business, date and time of use of the accountable form.

4.3 Safeguarding of accountable forms

It is the responsibility of individual members and the CEO to ensure all accountable forms issued by Council for conducting council business are kept in a safe and secure place to minimise the risk of theft or unauthorised transactions.

Unused or expired accountable forms must not be destroyed by a member or the CEO. Unused or expired accountable forms must be returned to the authorised delegate responsible for issuing the accountable form.