

2022 Potential Motion Model Policies

Who is the key contact for this motion?*	Sarah Hunter, Manager Strategy & Improvement
Do you have a contact at the LGAQ for this motion?	
Submitting council*	Gladstone Regional Council
Supporting organisation (if applicable)	Not applicable
Council resolution # *	[Insert resolution number]
Date of council resolution*	19/07/2022
✓ Does this motion have state-wide relevance? *	
Title of motion*	Model Policies
Motion*	<p>The LGAQ partner with the Queensland Department of Local Government and Local Government Managers Australia to provide resources to:</p> <p>a) Identify and make a list of policies that Councils are statutorily required to have in place to achieve legislative compliance (beyond the work that the Department has done which includes the policies required under the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> and <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>); and</p> <p>b) Potentially develop model policies that could be adopted and/or form a base for Councils to work from in the development of these statutory/core policies. Some examples of potential 'Model Policies' being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privacy Policy • Public Interest Disclosure Policy • Work Health and Safety Policy • Employee Code of Conduct Policy • Complaint Management Policy (Administrative Action Complaints) • Related Party Disclosures Policy • Records Management Policy.
What is the desired outcome sought?* 200-word limit	As local governments have limited resources with some smaller Councils not having a dedicated resource for policy development there would be benefit in having a resource that identifies those policies that all Councils are statutorily required to have across the full scope of legislation administered by Queensland Local Government, with supporting model policies as a 'base' for adoption and/or further development. Council understands that the Department of Local Government in partnership with Local Government Managers Australia are

	<p>proposing to do some work with smaller Councils in the development of policies and delivery of related training, however, it has not yet commenced.</p>
<p>Background* 350-word limit</p>	<p>The LGAQ has done some excellent work in the space of developing Model Local Laws and Model Subordinate Local Laws that Councils can elect to adopt within their local government area which has benefitted many Local Governments in that each individual Council has not had to commit resources to developing local laws from nothing. It has the added benefit of achieving a level of consistency across local government areas in terms of community expectations and compliance in areas such as Animal Management, Community and Environmental Management, Parking, Bathing Reserves, etc.</p> <p>Similarly, the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning has produced some excellent templates to assist local governments in adopting Councillor related policies such as the Model meeting procedures, Code of Conduct for Councillors and Councillor Complaint Investigation Policy.</p> <p>The issue is sector wide in that all local governments in Queensland are legislatively required to have certain policies in place. Currently each individual Council will dedicate resources to identifying what those legislatively required policies are and then developing the required policy to achieve compliance. It would be more efficient to have a single resource identifying all legislatively required policies and developing 'models' that can be shared across the sector.</p> <p>Gladstone Regional Council is part of a number of governance related networks and it is common practice for many Council's to informally share / request other Councils' policies to assist each other with policy development. The proposal presented in the motion would allow the sector to have a shared 'model' resource that the sector could reference which may minimise the need for Councils to rely on the informal sharing of information as described.</p>