



Enterprise Risk Management Framework

Risk Management Policy (Draft)
2018

ECM reference:

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

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1. Introduction

Risk is defined as the chance of something happening that will have an impact on organisational objectives. It arises due to uncertainty about the future and if left unmanaged can result in serious consequences for Council.

Council acknowledges that the application of risk management thinking, principles and practices in the form of an Enterprise Risk Management Framework, will help to reduce risks and uncertainties around the achievement of business objectives. In doing so, it will improve decision-making, assist in setting priorities for competing demands and resources, minimise the impact of adversity and loss, ensure regulatory compliance and, most importantly, assist in the delivery of high quality services to the community.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Risk Management Policy is to communicate Council's approach for managing its enterprise-wide risks, and establishing clear roles and responsibilities for its management and staff.

3. Scope

This Policy applies to all councillors, management, staff, contractors, consultants and volunteers across all Council activities and processes.

4. Legislative Requirements & Applicable Standards

Local Government Act 1993
Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Act 2016
AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009; *Risk Management - Principles and Guidelines*

5. Council Commitment

Council is committed to a formal, systematic, structured and proactive approach for the management of its risks across the organisation, in a manner consistent with International Standard *ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines*, ensuring:

- integration into Council's planning and decision-making processes;
- consistency of approach across the entire organization;
- clearly defined roles, responsibilities and levels of authority for risk management;
- training to enable staff to undertake their risk management responsibilities;
- adequate resources are allocated to support the Enterprise Risk Management Framework, with a clear connection between risks, strategies and budgets; and

- clear and concise communication with stakeholders in relation to risk management.

6. Policy Statements

Council will ensure:

- A comprehensive and relevant Enterprise Risk Management Framework is in place.
- Council's risk appetite and risk tolerances are defined and communicated in order to guide managers and staff in their decision-making.
- Managers lead, actively participate, and have oversight over all aspects of risk management within their area.
- Managers identify risks which threaten the achievement of their area's business objectives (operational risks).
- Identified risks are recorded, assessed and treated (if necessary) in accordance with the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.
- Operational risks are recorded in registers which are reviewed periodically by managers, executive managers and other relevant forums, in accordance with the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.
- Strategic risks (which threaten the achievement of Council's strategic objectives) are managed similarly by executive managers and Council.
- The highest rated risks are given priority and where necessary sufficient resources are allocated to the treatment of these risks.
- Executives, managers and other relevant staff are provided with risk management training.
- Day to day conversations about risk implications are encouraged as a way of embedding the Enterprise Risk Management Framework throughout Council.
- Opportunities for improvement resulting from risk analysis will be seized upon and promoted.

The implementation of this policy, encapsulated in the above statements, will contribute to the achievement of Council's objectives by reducing risk/uncertainty.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- The **Councillors** are responsible for the adoption of this Policy, thereby committing Council to the principles and practices of good Enterprise Risk Management. They may be asked to adopt other key documents from time to time.
- The **General Manager** is accountable for leading the ongoing application of the Enterprise Risk Management Framework at all levels of the organization. This will primarily be done through engaging with key stakeholders (management, councillors, partners, community, etc.) in order to promote the principles of good risk management.
- The **Corporate Leadership Team** is responsible for oversight of the management of operational risks within their respective portfolios, and setting and periodically reviewing the organisation's risk appetite.
- The **Corporate Leadership Team** is responsible for the management of Council's strategic risks.
- The **Chief Governance Officer** and **Legal Services Manager** are key advocates of the Enterprise Risk Management Framework, as they are responsible for the line management of Council's Risk & Audit function, and securing sufficient resources to enable the function to operate to the expected standard.
- **Managers (i.e. risk owners)** are responsible for the effective management of operational risks within their areas of responsibility in accordance with the Enterprise Risk Management Framework, ensuring that current risk registers are in place for their areas, risk treatment plans are implemented for any risks which are not within risk appetite, and that executive managers are kept informed of all significant risk issues.
- The **Risk & Audit Coordinator** is responsible for the ongoing development and implementation of the ERM Framework, ensuring that risk management principles and practices are applied consistently across the organisation. Other key responsibilities include the provision of advice to risk owners and the facilitation of risk workshops.
- The **Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee** is responsible for endorsement and oversight of the Enterprise Risk Management Framework, and the provision of advice and support in relation to the management of significant risks of Council, and risk management practice in general.
- **Staff, contractors, consultants and volunteers** are responsible for familiarising themselves with Council's risk management principles and practices as they relate to their daily activities.

8. Review

This Risk Management Policy is reviewed annually at minimum by the Risk & Audit Coordinator, in consultation with the Office of the General Manager. It may be reviewed earlier in response to a significant event or internal/external change, e.g. organisational structure.

9. Version Control

Version	Change from Previous	Date	Author
1.0	Initial development	June 2016	Kaye-Anne Goodshaw, Insurance Officer
2.0	Revised following Risk Register Project	June 2017	Anthony Robinson, Risk & Audit Coordinator
3.0	Approved by CLT	August 2017	
4.0	Reviewed by the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (amendment requested)	December 2017	Anthony Robinson, Risk & Audit Coordinator
5.0	Endorsed by the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee	June 2018	
6.0	Adopted by Council (Policy Review Committee)	November 2018	

10. References

Sources of information for the compilation of this document include:

- AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009; *Risk Management - Principles and Guidelines*
- ASX Corporate Governance Council; *Principle 7: Recognise and Manage Risk*
- Various risk management consultants
- Various NSW Councils' published Risk Management policies