

Local government principles

Factsheet

To ensure the system of local government in Queensland is accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable, all mayors, councillors and council employees are required to carry out their responsibilities in accordance with the local government principles.

Legislation

The local government principles are outlined in section 4 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 4 of the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*. Both Acts are principle-based legislation, which allow local governments to focus on required outcomes and to decide on the appropriate way to achieve those outcomes in a way that suits their particular situation. It gives local governments flexibility to decide processes that suit their size, location, and administrative circumstances, as long as the processes are rational, justifiable, and transparent. Various provisions of the Acts also provide penalties for mayors, councillors and council employees who fail to meet their obligations.

Principles

The principles highlight the essentials required for excellently performing local governments that Queenslanders expect and deserve.

- Transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest
- Sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services
- Democratic representation, social inclusion, and meaningful community engagement
- Good governance of, and by, local government
- Ethical and legal behaviour of councillors, local government employees and councillor advisors

More information

For more information about legislation, you can view resources at [Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning](#) or find contacts for your nearest [regional office](#).