

## SHIRE POSITION STATEMENT 4.3 Transparency & Accountability

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Responsible Department:</b>    | Office of the CEO   |
| <b>Responsible Business Unit:</b> | Executive Assistant |
| <b>Date of Adoption:</b>          | 15 April 2026       |
| <b>Council Resolution:</b>        | 120426              |

### STATEMENT OF POSITION

The Shire of Chittering is committed to high standards of transparency, accountability and good governance.

Council supports open and responsible decision-making processes that enable the community to understand how and why decisions are made, and how public resources are managed.

Council is committed to fostering a culture of integrity, ethical conduct and responsible stewardship across all levels of the organisation.

### BACKGROUND / CONTEXT

Transparency and accountability are fundamental principles of effective local government and are essential to maintaining public trust and confidence.

The Shire has historically implemented measures to promote openness in governance, including the public reporting of Elected Member activities and the provision of information to support informed decision-making.

This Position Statement replaces prescriptive policy requirements and establishes Council's commitment to transparency and accountability in a manner consistent with contemporary governance practices and evolving community expectations.

### APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This Position Statement applies to:

- Council
- Elected Members
- The Chief Executive Officer
- Employees of the Shire

This Statement establishes Council's position on transparency and accountability and informs governance practices, organisational culture, and future policy development.

### IMPLEMENTATION DIRECTION

Council will promote transparency and accountability by:

- Supporting access to relevant and timely information
- Encouraging responsible and ethical decision-making

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- Considering transparency principles in governance and strategic decision-making
- Upholding accountability in the use of public resources

The implementation of transparency and accountability measures is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer and will be managed through operational practices, procedures and reporting frameworks

### COMPLIANCE

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Legislation</b>              | <i>Local Government Act 1995 (WA)</i><br><i>Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 (WA)</i> |
| <b>Industry</b>                 | Local Government governance and transparency best practice  |
| <b>Organisational Documents</b> | Code of Conduct (Elected Members)<br>Code of Conduct (Employees)  |
| <b>Strategic Alignment</b>      |   |

### ADMINISTRATION

| Review Cycle | Every 3 years | Next Review Due | December 2027    |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Version      | Decision Ref  | Date            | Change           |
| 1.0          |               | 17/11/2021      | Initial adoption |
| 2.0          |               | 17/08/2022      | Amendment        |
| 3.0          | 120426        | 15/04/2026      | Conversion to PS |