Risk Management Policy

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Directorate:	City Performance
Record Number:	POL22/90

1.   Purpose

To effectively manage risk across the organisation, through an enterprise risk management framework consistent with the current Australian Standard for risk management (AS ISO 31000:2018), that supports Council to optimises growth opportunities and mitigate against potential loss and damage.

2.   Statement

Shoalhaven City Council is committed to integrating risk management into all its operations, decision making processes and governance structures to enable the council to identify and manage its risks while maximising opportunities to benefit the community.

Council will ensure that have the necessary resources to implement an effective Enterprise Risk Management Framework (ERM Framework), including appropriate skilled staff, systems, processes, and procedures for managing risks.

To meet this commitment, risk is to be everyone's business. All staff are to own and manage the risks that occur in their area of responsibility and seek assistance if required, to ensure we make sound decisions and deliver appropriate services and facilities to meet our goals and objectives.

By ensuring risk management is considered in any projects, events, design work, procurement of goods and services and in our routine activities, we will eliminate or minimise:

- incidence of personal injury and ill health to employees and members of the public.
- incidence of damage to equipment, facilities, and the environment.
- financial and operational losses.
- resources spent in relation to reacting to losses; and
- the potential for damage to Council's reputation

3.   Managing Risk

Council will establish and maintain appropriate systems and internal controls for oversight and management of risk.

Effective communication and consultation with relevant stakeholders will underpin the successful management of risk.

The Council's ERM Framework is based on key risk management principles and processes consistent with AS ISO 31000:2018, that will enable council to manage the effects of uncertainty on its objectives, while creating and protecting value.

Council will evaluate the effectiveness of our ERM Framework with ongoing monitoring and reporting, an internal audit program and oversight by an independent Audit, Risk, and Improvement Committee, to satisfy itself that the ERM Framework is appropriate to our needs.

4.   Responsibilities

The Elected Council commits to adopt this policy and risk management will be an integral part of the decision-making process.

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for ensuring risk is managed across all Council operations.

Directors and Managers are responsible for specific policy, project, and program risks within their area of responsibility and promoting a positive risk management culture through strong leadership, commitment, and communication.

All staff are responsible for managing risk within their activities, assisting to identify risks, implementing treatment plans, and escalating all issues as they emerge.

The City Performance Directorate is responsible for the development and monitoring of the ERM Framework, including related processes and systems, training, advice, and assistance to all Directorates on risk management matters. Further advice may also be obtained through Councils Legal Services.

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and councils internal audit function are to provide independent assurance of governance and risk management activities.

5.   Review

Within twelve (12) months of the date of the election of a new Council or as a result of any changes which cause a review of this policy.

6.   Responsibility

This document is the responsibility of the Manager Business Assurance and Risk to ensure it is distributed, communicated, reviewed, and stored as and when appropriate.