

Local Preference Policy

Policy Details

Policy Category	Council Policy
Date Adopted	19 February 2025
Approval Authority	Chief Executive Officer
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Policy Version Number	5
Policy Owner	Chief Operations Officer
Contact Officer	Director of Engineering

Supporting documentation

Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Act 2009 Local Government Regulation 2012
Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement Policy Order of Engagement Policy Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy Trade Practices Act 1974 Competition and Consumer Act Employee Code of Conduct
Delegations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director of Engineering and Evaluation Panel
Forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender Documents and Schedules
Supporting Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for Tender – ROPS Wet Hire Each Construction Season

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Intent

The policy's purpose and scope is to provide consistent direction and guidance to all officers when undertaking procurement activities in line with the sound contracting principles included in the *Local Government Act 2009*:

- value for money;
- open and effective competition;
- the development of competitive local business and industry;
- environmental protection; and
- ethical behaviour and fair dealing.

Scope

This Policy is applicable to all Council staff engaged in the assessment and evaluation of tenders, and contractors who submit tenders.

Policy Statement

Council is committed to the principle of the development of competitive local business and industry when entering into:

- contracts for the supply of goods or services;
- contracts for the carrying out of works; and
- the disposal of assets.

For this purpose, if an expression of interest, tender or quotation is evaluated and all things being equal it is Council's preference to engage local suppliers to assist in increasing their competitiveness and performance. That is, a local preference evaluation/selection criteria with a weighting of not more than 15% (of the evaluation/selection criteria total) may be utilised in the evaluation process, and where price, performance, quality, suitability and other selection criteria are evaluated equally then;

Council may accept a tender submission or offer from a local supplier in preference to a comparable tender submission or offer from a non-local supplier even if the tender submission or offer from the non-local supplier has been assessed as more favourable in terms of one or more of the assessment criteria applied (including, but not limited to, price), so long as the overall differences are not substantial, and so long as it is clear that the selected local supplier can meet Council's requirements at an acceptably high standard which is generally comparable to that of other offers.

4.1 Local Preference/Content Evaluation and Weighting Criteria

Local preference is not simply a price benefit to a local supplier, (e.g. where their price is 15% higher than a competitor's price), but rather a quantitative measurement that can be utilised in recognition of the physical presence of the supplier in the Carpentaria Shire Council area, as well as the demonstrated and/or actual accompanying social and economic benefits that this provides to Council, such as:

- to assist local businesses enhance their competitive standards and performance;
- to assist local suppliers and ultimately the communities Council serve to achieve financial sustainability and continuation of local services;

- creation of new and/or maintenance of existing local employment opportunities;
- more responsive and readily available servicing support; closer and more convenient communication regarding progress, performance and measurement to enable effective and efficient contract administration and management;
- encouragement for the relocation of established businesses from outside the region to physically enter, establish and maintain a physical presence ongoing in the region;
- support for economic growth within the local area; and
- returning value-added benefits to Council and its ratepayers from the associated local commercial transactions.

Therefore, in this policy statement, a “local supplier” is a supplier that:

- is beneficially owned and operated by persons who are permanent residents of the Local Government area of Council; or
- has a place of business within the Local Government area of Council which solely or primarily employs persons who are residents or ratepayers of the Local Government area of Council and:
- Who do not claim local status in another Local Government Area.

Key Responsibilities

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	RESPONSIBILITY
Director of Engineering	To review the successful tenderers and allocate the Order of Engagement.
Chief Operations Officer	To review Inventory guidelines to ensure the efficient and effective use of Council resources and the mitigation of any identified risks
Managers/Supervisors	To actively follow the requirements of this Policy.
Responsible Officers	To act in accordance with the provision and intent of the Policy
All contractors	To act within the public interest and comply with the requirements of this Policy.

Definitions

CSC	Carpentaria Shire Council
Council	Carpentaria Shire Council
Employee	Shall mean a Local Government Employee, including: the Chief Executive Officer; or \a person holding an appointment under section 196 of the Local Government Act 2009.
Local	An entity or individual permanently and physically located within the Carpentaria Shire Council boundaries.
Registered Business	A company or entity as defined by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) and that also appears as “Active” in the ASIC Business Name Register and as amended from time to time.
The Act	Local Government Act 2009

The Regulations	Local Government Regulation 2012
Whole of Life Cost (WoLC)	The total of all costs over the life of the good/service/work (i.e. acquisition, maintenance and disposal costs)

Adopted by Council by Resolution on 19 February 2025 Resolution 0225/014.



Anne Andrews

Chief Executive Officer