

1. Rationale

This Policy formalises Council's commitment to risk management and assigns responsibilities for implementing risk management across Council operations.

As risk is inherent in all aspects of the Council's activities, this Policy supports the maximisation of all viable opportunities whilst promoting a structured and consistent approach to minimising risk exposure.

Risk management is an integral contributor to good governance and fosters effective decision-making to achieve the Council's Vision and strategic objectives, focusing on improving residents quality of life, enhancing community outcomes, increasing productivity, efficiency and minimising business interruptions.

2. Policy statement

The City of Marion is committed to the achievement of its strategic objectives. It acknowledges that it must take and accept risks to gain benefit. In so doing, it also accepts that failures and setbacks may occur. The Council therefore has a risk appetite which is HIGH for pursuing opportunities to become more innovative in the delivery of our services and creating partnerships that benefit our community through increased active participation in our services and facilities.

The City of Marion expects that its people conduct themselves with integrity, respectfully strive for achievement and aim for continuous delivery of services. It has a MEDIUM risk appetite for activities that may adversely impact on our role as a significant contributor within the community and a LOW risk appetite for legislative non-compliance or practices and behaviours that could reasonably be expected to harm the organisation, its people, the community, or the environment.'

Further context is provided within the Risk Management Framework which includes the Risk Criteria and Matrix.

3. Objectives

To achieve Council's risk management objectives, the City of Marion Risk Management Framework ('the Framework') has been established in accordance with the International Standard ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management Guidelines.

The Framework aims to provide guidance for maximising opportunities whilst minimising risks that may impact the achievement of Council's objectives.

This is addressed through:

- Embedding a risk culture and high level of risk and opportunity awareness across the organisation to support the achievement of strategically aligned outcomes.
- Implementing consistent risk management processes to manage risk and opportunities throughout CoM's organisational systems and functions including planning, resource allocation priorities, internal audit, and control processes, in line with risk management standards including AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management Principles
- Enabling the consistent and systematic application of our risk management approach within all Council operations.
- Guiding a risk management approach to strategic, operational and project decision making, to support proactive management strategies that mitigate against events occurring and ensure robust contingency plans to lessen the impact of events if they were to materialise.
- Implementing a Business Continuity Management (BCM) Policy and Framework to minimise the impact of business disruptions on the Council's critical community services.
- Protecting public funds, assets and the integrity, security and reputation of the CoM by implementing a Fraud Policy and Framework which will prevent, identify, minimise and control fraudulent and/or corrupt activity.
- Providing adequate response to emergencies on behalf of the CoM residents and the community by implementing a Community Emergency Management Plan outlining our commitment to our community.

4. Policy scope and implementation

Scope

The Risk Management Policy applies to all operations and functions of the Council including strategic, operational, and project level, and applies to all council staff.

Implementation

The policy is implemented by the Risk Management Framework that provides the structure and organisational arrangements for assessing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and continually improving risk management throughout the organisation.

5. Definitions

Term	Definition
Risk	The effect of uncertainty on objectives. It can be positive, negative or both and can address, create or result in opportunities and threats.
Risk Appetite	The amount and type of risk that an organisation is willing to pursue or retain.
Risk Management	. Coordinated activities to direct and control an organisation regarding risk.
Risk Management Framework	The structure and organisational arrangements for designing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and continually improving risk management throughout the organisation
Risk Management Policy	A statement of the overall intentions and direction of an organisation related to risk management
Risk Tolerance	A readiness to accept the risk after risk treatment(s) to achieve its objectives.

6. Roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Council	Sets the risk appetite and tolerance levels and has overall responsibility for risk, adopts the City of Marion Risk Management Policy & Framework. Discharges responsibility to the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee to evaluate councils effectiveness of risk management.

Role	Responsibility
Finance, Risk and Audit Committee	Receives risk reports to evaluate and provide advice to council's effectiveness of risk management on behalf of Council.
Chief Executive Officer	Sets the policy and procedures to assist with the management of the City of Marion risk profile and has overall accountability for an effective risk management program.

Note: The Risk Management Framework provides further information on the broader risk management roles and responsibilities.

7. References

City of Marion

- City of Marion Risk Management Framework
- City of Marion Business Continuity Management Policy and Framework
- City of Marion Fraud Policy and Framework
- City of Marion Finance & Audit Committee Terms of Reference

Other

- ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management - Guidelines

8. Review and evaluation

Reviewed every four years, in accordance with the Corporate Policy Framework and authorised by Council.