





- The Council:
 - Directs and controls the local government's affairs;
 - is responsible for the performance of the local government's functions;
 - oversees the allocation of the local government's finances and resources;
 - determines the local government's policies
 - employs the Chief Executive Officer.

The Mayor:

- presides at meetings in accordance with the Local Government Act;
- provides leadership and guidance to the community in the district;
- carries out civic and ceremonial duties on behalf of the local government;
- speaks on behalf of the local government;
- liaises with the CEO on the local government's affairs and the performance of its functions.

The Chief Executive Officer:

- **advises the Council in relation to the functions of a local government;**
- **ensures that advice and information is available to the Council so that informed decisions can be made;**
- **causes Council decisions to be implemented;**
- **manages the day to day operations of the local government;**
- **liaises with the Mayor on the local government's affairs and the performance of its functions;**
- **speaks on behalf of the local government with the Mayor's agreement;**
- **is responsible for the employment, management, supervision, direction and dismissal of other employees;**
- **ensures records and documents are properly kept.**

- Sections 5.102A to 5.125 contain the provisions for the “Conduct of Certain Officials”.
- Establishes Standards Panels to consider minor breaches and requires serious breaches to be referred to the State Administrative Tribunal.
- Director, Finance and Corporate Services is the City’s complaints officer.

- A financial interest exists if it is reasonable to expect that a matter if dealt with in a particular way would result in a financial gain, loss, benefit or detriment for a person.
- It is important to note that the person could be the member themselves, someone with whom the member has a financial relationship, or *closely associated persons* which includes employers, spouses and children living with the person, or someone who has given the member a notifiable gift.

There are specific rules prescribed in different areas by these regulations. They are:

- Use of information (reg 6);
- Securing personal advantage or disadvantaging others (reg 7);
- Misuse of local government resources (reg 8);
- Prohibition against involvement in administration (reg 9);
- Relations with local government employees (reg 10);
- Disclosure of interest (reg 11); and
- Gifts (reg 12).

All Council members, Committee members and employees shall:

- **Provide relevant and factually correct information to decision-makers;**
- **Fulfil their public and professional duties in a manner that is ethical, impartial, objective, responsible and in the best interests of the local government uninfluenced by fear or favour;**

- Act in accordance with their obligation of fidelity to the local government;
- Not use or attempt to use their positions for personal benefit or the personal benefit of others, either by influencing others, the improper use of information gained in the performance of their duties, or otherwise;
- Contribute to the good governance and strategic priorities of the City of Busselton in accordance with the adopted vision, values, plans and budget;

Decisions made in relation to development applications are made under the local government's town planning scheme and the discretions allowed under that scheme.

Elected members must not lose sight of the fact that when making decisions on development applications they have to apply the rules and discretions, as they exist, not as they might want them to be. The local government will need to comply with the provisions of the legislation dealing with planning decisions.

