

### Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- Provide the public with a clear understanding of Council's commitment to community and stakeholder engagement;
  - Help key stakeholders understand the range of perspectives and viewpoints amongst members;
  - Provide a forum for dialogue in a constructive and informed manner;
  - Raise awareness of Council decisions and community aspirations surrounding programs, projects, and initiatives;
  - Provide key stakeholders with an opportunity to be more actively involved in the decision making process; and
  - Allow for informed decision making to collectively achieve an improved quality of life for all.
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### Scope

This Policy is applicable to Shire of Boddington (Shire) Council members, employees, and contractors who engage with stakeholders in relation to the delivery of services and projects or the implementation of policies.

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### Definitions

Term	Meaning
Policy	This Shire of Boddington policy titled "Community Engagement".
Engagement	Connection with community groups, organisations, and individuals for the purpose of informed decision making. This may include informing, consulting, collaborating, and involving stakeholders in decision making.
Stakeholders	Community members, groups, individuals, or entities that have an interest in the business of the Shire of Boddington.

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### Policy Statement

The Shire of Boddington is to encourage community confidence, demonstrate good governance by engaging effectively with the community to strengthen relationships, build community capacity, and facilitate transparent decision making.

Council is to work with the community to identify the most appropriate engagement methods, working to continually improve relationships and outcomes when:

- Developing policies, strategies, and plans that could directly or indirectly impact on the community;
- Changing services and/or service levels;
- Impacting community health and well-being;
- Impacting on the social, economic, natural, or built environment; or

- Meeting statutory and/or compliance requirements.

This Policy is to be applied whenever any new program, project, or initiative is planned to be introduced, any change in service, activity, or infrastructure is being proposed, or any review is considered.

Community involvement techniques are to vary depending on who is being involved and the nature and complexity of the issue. Available resources are also to be considered e.g. the timeframe available, the funds available, and the staff resource capacity available.

<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>History</b>	Adopted 18 April 2017 (Resolution 57/17) Amended 23 March 2023 (Resolution 25/23)
<b>Delegation</b>	
<b>Relevant Legislation</b>	
<b>Related Documentation</b>	Communications and Media Policy