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SOCIAL JUSTICE FRAMEWORK

Strategic Outcome:	Good government
Policy type	Strategic
Date of Adoption:	16 February 2022 Minute Number: 36
Date for Review:	19 February 2025
Responsible Officer:	Director Strategic Planning and Development
Document Control:	Version 2.0
Delivery Program Link:	2.1.1.1 <i>Promote and support the engagement of Shire residents, local business and agencies in the development, implementation &</i>

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Council planning and service delivery actively supports, and is informed by the social justice principles of access, rights, equity and participation

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this framework is to define the Berrigan Shire Council's social justice obligations and the application of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Section 8) requirement that Council decision making 'considers social justice principles'.

3. SCOPE

This framework applies to Councillors, Council employees, and contractors engaged on behalf of the Berrigan Shire Council, and who are, during the course of their role, engaged in and have responsibility for, the planning and delivery of Berrigan Shire Council activities.

4. OBJECTIVE

This policy is developed to assist the Council with the Delivery Program Objective:

2.1.1 Council operations, partnerships and coordination or resources contribute toward implementation of Berrigan Shire 2027



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5. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Principles

Equity – there is fairness in decision-making, prioritising and allocation of resources. Moreover, the planning processes that guide decision-making are inclusive and protect the interests of current and future generations.

Access – residents and visitors to the Berrigan Shire have access, within Shire Council resources, to the services and opportunities that improve their quality of life.

Participation – the people who live, work and study in the Shire are encouraged and supported to become involved in Council and community decision-making.

Rights – Within the exercise of its responsibilities and activities, the Berrigan Shire Council supports:

- a) the right to be respected as an individual and a member of the community without distinction or discrimination;
- b) the right to a standard of living which protects the health, safety and dignity of individuals, children, and families;
- c) the right to work and earn an income;
- d) the right to learning throughout life;
- e) the right to participate in the public and cultural life of the community;
- f) the right to access adequate food, clothing, housing, social support and health services;
and
- g) the right to access recreation and leisure facilities and services.

5.2 Legislative requirements

Section 8A(2)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Councils, when making their decisions consider “social justice principles”

5.3 Implementation

This framework and its decision-making principles is embedded in the Berrigan Shire Council’s approach to the planning and delivery of Council services and activities described in the following Council policies,



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plans and strategies but is not limited, to the following and applies to all aspects of Council planning and decision making.

6. RELATED LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

6.1 Legislation and external guidelines

- *Local Government Act 1993*
- Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines for NSW Councils (2021)

6.2 Council policies and guidelines

- Child-Safe Policy and Framework
- Community Engagement Framework and Community Participation Plan
- Debt Management and Hardship Policy
- Equal Employment Opportunity Policy
- Community Strategic Plan
- Children, Young People, and their Families Strategy
- Library Services Strategy and Plan
- Active Aging and Disability Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan
- Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan

7. RECORDS MANAGEMENT

All Records must be kept in accordance with Council's Records Management Policy (currently under development) and destroyed as per the General Retention and Disposal Authority: Local Government Records (GA39).

8. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This policy will be evaluated and reviewed at least once every four (4) years as per Council's Governance Policy (currently under development) or as required.

9. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

This policy will be available for inspection at Council's principal office during ordinary business hours as per the requirements of section 18 (c) of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Access to the policy in digital format is free and is available on Council's website <https://www.berriganshire.nsw.gov.au/>



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Printed copies of the document are available at Council's principal office (address noted below) and are subject to Council's Fees and Charges.

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10. VERSION CONTROL

Version Number	Date	Summary	Responsible Officer
1.0	12.10.2016	Creation of new Policy	Director Strategic Planning & Development
2.0	16.02.2022	Amended with new IPR guidelines	Director Strategic Planning & Development