



POLICY STATEMENT

HOUSING POLICY

POLICY ADOPTED: 19 February 2019

Policy Objective:

The objective of the policy is to provide a framework for the decision making process relating to the purchase or building of accommodation for professions within the Bland Shire that are deemed critical to the Bland Shire Council or the community as a whole.

Policy Statement:

Access to quality housing in rural locations where local availability is scarce and rental costs high, housing is an important means of achieving Council's and community goals. Therefore, Council may from time to time purchase or build housing to attract and maintain committed professional staff (in professions where there is a shortage) in order to deliver its outcomes and meet the needs of the community.

Housing shall be based on the following principles:

- Housing is purchased or built by determined needs within Council and the community
- Support the attraction and retention of professional staff with the required skills and qualifications as necessitated by service delivery and organisational and/or community needs
- That prior to purchasing or entering into an agreement to build a house(s), the financial implications and Council's current financial status will be taken into consideration
- A business case be prepared for each purchase to identify Council's liabilities and return on investment
- The housing assets will be operated on a financially viable basis and attain a level of self-sufficiency
- Ensure planning for the provision of housing in the Bland Shire where there is recognised shortfall of private rental accommodation
- All housing allocations are approved by the General Manager.

Housing Rent

All housing rentals are determined purely based on the market value.

Housing Bonds

All housing arrangements will be secured with a bond that will be deposited with NSW Fair Trading.

Rental Agreements

Council may engage a local real estate agent to manage the rental property on Council's behalf.

References:

NSW Residential Tenancies Act (2010) or superseding acts or regulations
NSW Residential Tenancies Regulations (2010) or superseding acts and regulations
NSW Department of Fair Trading

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director Corporate Community Development and Regulatory Services		
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Superceded Policy			
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19 February 2019			February 2021
Related Council Policy / Procedure			