

POLICY: NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DATE ADOPTED: Director Corporate Services & Finance’s Report #8.3.5
Ordinary Council Meeting 20 September 2023
Resolution No. ORD2023-269

Director Corporate Services & Finance’s Report #8.2.5
Council 18 August 2021
Resolution No. ORD2021/293
Council 15 September 2021
Resolution No. ORD2021/312

Director Corporate Services & Finance’s Report #1
Policy 5 December 2012
Council 6 February 2013
Minute Book No.11477

ORIGINAL ADOPTION: Director Corporate Services Report #1
Policy 1 December 2004, Council 8 December 2004
Minute Book No. 9416
(former BCC Policy)

FILE REFERENCE: 18.00008, 41.00089

OBJECTIVE: To increase women’s participation in Local Government decision making.

That Council adopt the Framework for Women in Local Government.

A. Statement of Commitment

1. We acknowledge that in Local Government women are under represented both as elected members and as senior members of administrations and that their increased participation in both of these arenas should be encouraged.
2. We agree to review our own policies and practices to ensure that no discrimination or impediment exists, and will take action to ensure that barriers to women’s full participation in Local Government are removed.
3. We will work to create and support an environment in Local Government which is harassment-free and that encourages the expression of and respect for a wide range of views.

B. Goals

1. To increase the number of and participation of women in Local Government so that Councils may clearly represent and/or reflect the communities they serve, by:
 - (a) increasing the number of women as elected members and Mayors, and

- (b) increasing the number of women as CEO/General Managers, second and third level managers.

C. Objectives

1. To create Councils and communities where women feel able to fully participate and share their skills, knowledge and experience.
2. To work towards harassment-free, participative Councils where options and differences are respected.
3. To develop a climate of understanding among Councillors, CEOs/General Managers and senior staff of the need for the initiatives in this Framework and to enlist their support.
4. Where women choose women-only training and networking, to gain acceptance and support of their participation in these activities.