

Procurement – Policy & Process in the real world

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Gathering on Bunurong Country

I pay my deepest respect to the Ancestors and the Elders past and present who have nurtured and cared for Bunurong Country for tens of thousands of years.

I also pay my respects to the lands, waters, flora and fauna of this beautiful Country.



What we will cover

- Simple Procurement Policy
- Sound Procurement Environment
- Myths, Misconceptions and Trends
- Attracting Suppliers
- Rethink, Refocus, Restart

Simple Procurement Policy

Knox Procurement Policy:

- ✓ Easy to find
- ✓ Great drivers

About the policy

Our Procurement Policy helps ensure our procurement is transparent, fair and honest by:

- making sure purchasing activities are consistent
- providing financial accountability to ratepayers
- making sure all processes are carried out fairly
- making sure we follow best practice
- reducing risk when we buy goods and services.

The policy is under the [Local Government Act 2020](#).

[See our Procurement Policy.](#)

Simple Procurement Policy

Knox Procurement Policy:

- ✓ Scope “...all procurement and contract activities...”
- ✓ Covers topics such as:
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Confidentiality
 - Probity and much, much more...

Simple Procurement Policy

Finance people see:

1. Awarded contracts
2. Invoices with pricing
3. Contract variations
4. Who signs off payments
5. Forward spend/projects
6. Service Planning (some)

Sound Procurement Environment

Protect staff by broadening procurement type training, process and awareness, such as:

1. Conflict of Interest Declaration and Management
2. Confidentiality
3. Fraud and Corruption

Myths, Misconceptions & Trends

Finance has nothing to do with procurement.

✓ Southern Grampians training, covering:

- Governance
- Probity
- Conflict of Interest
- Confidentiality
- Fraud and Corruption

Myths, Misconceptions & Trends

Finance can't help with procurement policy outcomes.

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Myths, Misconceptions & Trends

IBAC charged a former Frankston City Council manager with 79 charges including obtaining property by deception, making false documents, using false documents and misconduct in public office. IBAC also charged a supplier of services to Frankston City Council, who is the owner of an electrical company, with 78 similar offences, on 7 January 2019.

The person in question was sentenced on 3 charges:

- Charge 1: Ten months imprisonment plus 30-month Community Correction Order, to complete 300 hours community work for obtaining property by deception to the amount of \$460,872.32
- Charge 2: Four months imprisonment plus 12-month Community Correction Order for attempting to obtain property by deception to the amount of \$65,530.60; and
- Charge 3: Five months imprisonment plus 15 months Community Correction Order for misconduct in public office.

His Honour Judge Georgiou directed that two months imprisonment from Charge 3 be served cumulatively to Charge 1, resulting in a total sentence of 12 months imprisonment. The Community Correction Orders are to be served concurrently.

Myths, Misconceptions & Trends

Better financial reporting to support procurement planning and contract management.

- ✓ Renegade spend
- ✓ Category spend
- ✓ Contract variations

Attracting Suppliers

As part of the many fantastic teams in Local Government, YOU can help to attract suppliers by being:

- ✓ AAA credit rating
- ✓ Ethical, transparent, accountable and therefore trustworthy
- ✓ Easy to do business with – flexible payment terms

Rethink, Refocus, Restart

- ✓ Protect staff, Council and community by training and raising awareness in areas that have historically been seen only relevant to Procurement
- ✓ Support procurement and other areas of council by viewing everyday work with the lens of the training and awareness provided
- ✓ Continue to innovate business areas with fantastic reporting
- ✓ Support suppliers and ease of business



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Source & Reference Material

[Victorian-Local-Government-Best-Practice-Procurement-Guidelines-2024-Final.pdf](#)

[Procurement Policy | Knox](#)

[Former Frankston City Council manager sentenced to imprisonment following IBAC investigation | IBAC](#)

[Speak up to stop improper influence \(60 seconds\) \(youtube.com\)](#)

[My local council: if something is not right, who do I complain to? \(youtube.com\)](#)