

	CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL POLICY	
	Councillor Contact with Lobbyists, Developers and Submitters	POLICY REF NO CHRCP: 0041

1. Policy Purpose

- 1.1. This policy states council's position on Councillors contact with lobbyists, developers and submitters.
- 1.2. This policy is in addition to any other legal requirements or council policies and procedures placed on Councillors in relation to such contact.

2. Policy Statement

- 2.1. Free and open access to Councillors, and Council itself, is vital to efficient and effective local government.
- 2.2. Contact with Councillors is undertaken by many people in the community in relation to a broad range of matters. Lobbyists, developers and submitters seek access to Councillors to discuss potential and existing development applications and other projects. The public has an expectation that such contact is carried out ethically and transparently.
- 2.3. Council will ensure that dealings with lobbyists, developers and submitters is carried out in a transparent, legal, ethical and impartial manner by:
 - a. Ensuring lobbyists, developers and submitters are aware of the appropriate council processes for making submissions to council and meeting with Councillors;
 - b. Keeping appropriate records of meetings held by Councillors with lobbyists, developers and submitters. These records should detail, as a minimum, the date and time of the meeting or exchange, a summary of the matters raised with the Councillor and a summary of the Councillor's response.

3. Definitions

Developer means an applicant for development approval. If the applicant is a body corporate, the term includes office holders and employees of the applicant. If the applicant is a partnership, the term includes partners and employees of the applicant.

Development Application means an application for development that requires assessment against the provisions of Council's town planning scheme.

Development Approval means a development application that has been approved by Council.

Lobbyist means an entity that carries out a lobbying activity for a third party client or whose employees or contractors carry out a lobbying activity for a third party client.

Submitter means –

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- (a) for a development application or change application – a person who makes a properly made submission about the application; or
- (b) for a particular submission – the person who made the submission.

Strategic Link	<i>Local Government Act 2009</i> <i>Integrity Act 2009</i>
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