



# POLICY 8.0 - SERVICE MANAGEMENT: GOVERNANCE

## *Purpose*

The purpose of this policy is to set out the commitment of how the decisions and actions of the Better Together's Governance are undertaken. The policy is to ensure relevant systems are created, developed, maintained and reviewed to maintain service delivery and compliance by the organisation's.

As a registered association Better Together operates according to the Better Together rules passed by the members of the Association on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

The *Service Management: Governance Policy* is intended to clarify the content of the Better Together Rules by making explicit the underlying principles of governance and management approved by the organisation in accordance with the incorporated associations act, the National Disability Insurance Scheme Practice Standards and any other relevant legislation.

## *Applicability*

This policy applies to all management committee members from the moment they are elected to office. It shall be the responsibility of the secretary of the management committee to ensure that all members receive this policy and information regarding governance responsibilities.

## *Policy Statement*

Better Together is committed to ensuring there are effective systems and processes in place to guide and support its overall direction, effectiveness, supervision processes and internal and external accountability. Accountable and transparent governance arrangements ensure Better Together:

- complies with relevant legislation, regulations and contractual arrangements;
- supports and develops its committee members and staff
- delivers quality and safe services that meet the needs of its service users.
- Has a manager and board of management with the qualifications and experience to deal with issues relating to financial and legal matters, human resources, service management and service promotion and/or business partnerships in place to achieve these requirements
- The management of the organisations being undertaken by a suitable, experienced and qualified manager that has clear responsibility, authority and accountability.

## *Preamble*

Better Together is a community organisation incorporated under the Association Incorporations Act (Qld) and adopts the principles of good practice in Corporate Governance.

The management committee has the responsibility to be informed of, and to espouse the philosophy of, Better Together. It will develop good management practices, and stay abreast of relevant service issues by means of workshops, conferences and advisers. All members of the management committee will be provided with relevant training and development opportunities relating to governance and their role in the organisation and sector. All members of the management committee will agree to abide by the Better Together Management Committee Code of Conduct.

The management committee is an elective, representative, and collective body. It is elective, in that the determination of management committee members is the prerogative of members through the election process. It is representative in that no member can be mandated by their constituency to adopt a particular position if they do not believe it to be in the best interests of the organisation. Whatever the constituency of any member, all members are committed to acting selflessly and making decisions and voting on governance decisions solely in the best interests of the organisation. It is collective, in that while each member should put the point of view of their electoral constituency, and each member has the right to argue for their own point of view and to vote for that position, once a collective decision has been taken, management committee members are required to support that decision.

Better Together and its governance committee members will respect to their statutory and fiduciary duties as prescribed in the;

Commonwealth;

- *Work Health and Safety Act (2011),*
- *Sex Discrimination Act (1984)*
- *Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Act (1986),*
- *Disability Discrimination Act (1992),*
- *Age Discrimination Act (2004),*
- *Workplace Relations Act (1996),*
- *Goods and Services Tax Act (1999),*
- *Income Tax Assessment Act (1997),*
- *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act (2013)*
- *Privacy Act (1988)*

Queensland;

- *Associations Incorporation Act (1981)*
- *Anti-Discrimination Act (1991),*
- *Disability Services Act (2006)*
- *Human Rights (2019)*