# FAQs

## Best Practice Policy Template

### GENERAL QUESTIONS

**What does QBL stand for?**

It refers to integrating economic, environmental, social, and ethical governance considerations into decision-making. The MAV Procurement Policy Template applies QBL principles to procurement planning and decisions to achieve broader community, sustainability, and governance outcomes.

**Has the Policy undergone any legal review?**

No, the template itself has not been subject to a formal legal review. Should an individual council wish to obtain legal advice prior to adoption, this is at their discretion and expense. The template, however, has been developed with reference to legislative obligations and best practice guidelines to support compliance.

**How many Councils were involved in developing the draft?**

The MAV Best Practice Procurement Policy Template was developed in collaboration with a working group of metropolitan and regional Victorian councils, leveraging insights from RPEN groups and sector consultation. It builds upon previous policy templates from Northern and Southern regional council groups, ensuring sector alignment.

### CONTRACT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES, PROCUREMENT MANUAL TEMPLATE AND OTHER TOOLS.

**Will MAV be looking at this too, and when?**

Yes, this reflects the feedback MAV has been receiving from councils across the sector. While the current Procurement Policy Template has been intentionally designed to focus on strategic intent clearly separating core policy from operational procedures and manuals, there is a recognised need for complementary tools to support implementation.

MAV plans to develop a Procurement Manual Template, RFX (RFQ/RFT) templates, and Contract Management best practice resources as part of its future toolkit initiatives. These will be co-designed with councils to ensure they are practical, scalable, and aligned with varying levels of procurement maturity across the sector.

Further updates on project timelines and opportunities for council involvement will be communicated later in the year.

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### APPENDICES PROCUREMENT THRESHOLDS & FINANCIAL DELEGATIONS

**Does MAV have sector data for a standard?**
MAV recognises this would be a valuable sector tool. While data has been collected informally through RPEN groups, a formal project to develop a benchmarking tool for procurement thresholds and financial delegations is planned to commence later this year. MAV will communicate updates on this as the project progresses. Stay tuned.

### FEEDBACK

**Policy is too operational – How was balance with the Act achieved?**
This Policy is intentionally strategic, focusing on the "what" and "why", while allowing councils to operationalise "how" through their Procurement Manual and internal procedures.

It addresses the mandatory requirements under the Local Government Act 2020, whilst allowing for flexibility recognising that council maturity, systems, and processes vary.

The editable appendices were designed to accommodate council-specific operational needs without cluttering the core policy. The policy also embeds sector best practices and addresses emerging procurement challenges (e.g., contract variations, panel arrangements, value-for-money expectations).

### FOR ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES…

Please feel free to reach out to our Engagement Team with any questions and feedback about this contract.

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