

How Councils Formally Make Decisions

This diagram shows how decisions are made in local councils and who contributes to the process.

Top-Level Decision Makers

Chief Executive and Officials: Manage the day-to-day running of the council and put policies into action.

Councillors: Approve budgets, land development plans, policies, and bye-laws at council meetings.

These two groups work together and provide the main direction for council decisions.

Input into Decisions

Both Chief Executives/Officials and Councillors get input from several groups:

- **Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs):** Advise the council on policy development, review, and monitoring.
- **Municipal Districts (Area Committees):** Represent local areas and provide input on decisions affecting their communities.
- **Local Community Development Committees:** Bring community perspectives into council planning and actions.

Who Nominates Members?

Social Partners and Public Participation Networks (PPNs): These groups nominate members to sit on SPCs and other committees, ensuring Community and sectoral voices are represented in council decisions.

In simple terms: Councils make decisions with guidance from councillors and officials. These decisions are informed by committees made up of community representatives and experts nominated by social and public groups, making the process inclusive and representative.