



New South Wales

Local Government (General) Amendment (Model Code of Meeting Practice) Regulation 2025

under the

Local Government Act 1993

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has made the following regulation under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

RON HOENIG, MP
Minister for Local Government

Explanatory note

The object of this regulation is to amend the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* to provide for the following—

- (a) specifying what is an act of disorder by a councillor at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council,
- (b) specifying actions the chairperson of the meeting may take when an act of disorder occurs,
- (c) prescribing a new model code of meeting practice for the conduct of meetings of councils and committees of councils,
- (d) making transitional arrangements in relation to the adoption by councils of mandatory provisions of the new model code of meeting practice,
- (e) requiring a council to make audio visual recordings of a meeting of the council or committee of the council publicly available on a council website at the same time the meeting takes place,
- (f) specifying the period for which the recording must continue to be available on the website.

This regulation is made under the *Local Government Act 1993*, including sections 360, 490A and 748, the general regulation-making power, and Schedule 6.

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1 Name of regulation

This regulation is the *Local Government (General) Amendment (Model Code of Meeting Practice) Regulation 2025*.

2 Commencement

This regulation commences as follows—

- (a) for Schedule 1[7] and [8]—on 1 January 2026,
- (b) otherwise—on the day on which this regulation is published on the NSW legislation website.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

[1] Section 182

Omit the section. Insert instead—

182 Acts of disorder

For the Act, section 490A, the following are acts of disorder for the purposes of the Act, Chapter 14 and the code of conduct if done by a councillor at a meeting of the council or a committee of the council—

- (a) contravening any of the following—
 - (i) the Act,
 - (ii) this regulation,
 - (iii) the code of meeting practice adopted by the council under the Act, section 360,
- (b) assaulting, or threatening to assault, another councillor or person present at the meeting,
- (c) moving or attempting to move a motion or an amendment that—
 - (i) has an unlawful purpose, or
 - (ii) deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the council or committee,
- (d) addressing or attempting to address the council or committee on or about a motion, amendment or matter referred to in paragraph (c),
- (e) using offensive or disorderly words,
- (f) making gestures or otherwise behaving in a way that—
 - (i) is sexist, racist, homophobic or otherwise discriminatory, or
 - (ii) if the behaviour occurred in the Legislative Assembly, would be considered disorderly,
- (g) imputing improper motives, or unfavourably personally reflecting, on the following, except by a motion—
 - (i) another councillor,
 - (ii) a delegate of the council,
 - (iii) a member of a committee of the council,
 - (iv) a member of staff of the council,
 - (v) a person exercising a function on behalf of the council,
 - (vi) a person present at the meeting,
- (h) saying or doing anything that—
 - (i) would promote disorder at the meeting, or
 - (ii) is otherwise inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting.

[2] Section 232 Model code of practice

Omit “29 October 2021”. Insert instead “29 August 2025”.

[3] Section 232, note

Insert at the end of the section—

Note— See also section 422, which provides for transitional arrangements in relation to the revised model code of meeting practice, including the consequences if a local

council fails to adopt the mandatory provisions of the revised model code of meeting practice by 31 December 2025.

[4] Section 233 Expulsion for acts of disorder

Omit “section 182(a), (b) or (e)” from section 233(1)(a).

Insert instead “section 182(a), (b), (e), (f) or (h)”.

[5] Section 233(1)(b)

Omit “section 182(c)”. Insert instead “section 182(c) or (d)”.

[6] Section 233(1)(c)

Omit “section 182(d) or (e)”. Insert instead “section 182(e), (f), (g) or (h)”.

[7] Section 236 Councils to broadcast meetings online

Omit “audio or” from section 236(1).

[8] Section 236(2)

Omit section 236(2) and (3). Insert instead—

(2) The recording must—

- (a) be made publicly available on the council’s website at the same time as the meeting is taking place, and
- (b) remain publicly available on the council’s website until the later of the following days—
 - (i) the day that is 12 months after the meeting,
 - (ii) the day the council’s term ends.

[9] Part 14 Savings, repeal and transitional provisions

Insert after Division 4—

Division 5 Provision consequent on making of Local Government (General) Amendment (Model Code of Meeting Practice) Regulation 2025

422 Model code of meeting practice

- (1) This section applies if a council fails to adopt a new code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the revised model code of meeting practice by 31 December 2025.
- (2) From 1 January 2026—
 - (a) a provision of the council’s code of meeting practice that is inconsistent with a mandatory provision of the revised model code of meeting practice is void and of no effect, and
 - (b) the mandatory provisions of the revised model code of meeting practice are taken to form part of the code of meeting practice adopted by the council under the Act, section 360.
- (3) In this section—
code of meeting practice, in relation to a council, means the code of meeting adopted by the local council, whether adopted before or after 29 August 2025.

revised model code of meeting practice means the *Model Code of Meeting Practice for Local Councils in NSW*, published in the Gazette on 29 August 2025.