



COUNCIL POLICY		
Regional Assessment Service Policy	Policy No:	
	Adopted by Council:	
	Next review date:	
Senior Manager:	General Manager Corporate Services	
Responsible Officer:	General Manager Corporate Services	
Functional Area:	Corporate Services	
Introduction & Background	<p>With the move to transition Home and Community Care (HACC) services to the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services has mandated that the Regional Assessment Service (RAS) function cannot directly influence any HACC service delivery.</p> <p>This is to ensure that clients have freedom of choice in service providers and are able to objectively assess all service providers to ensure best value.</p>	
Purpose & Objectives	To enable home support care clients make an unbiased best value based approach to choosing a service provider.	
Definitions	<p>HACC – Home And Community Care</p> <p>CHSP – Commonwealth Home Support Program</p> <p>RAS – Regional Assessment Service</p>	
Policy Details		
1)	<p>Council acknowledges that choice of provider is a key fundamental of the CHSP care model.</p> <p>Council provides both home support services and RAS services.</p> <p>For the sake of transparency and to ensure that a best value and informed choice in service provider is made by the client, Council will ensure that the RAS service is separate from and does not promote Council's own home support provision service.</p>	
2)	<p>Service Structure</p> <p>Council's RAS service provision will be outside the organisational structure of Council's home support service provision team.</p> <p>Council's RAS staff will be a standalone team reporting directly to the General Manager Corporate and Community Services.</p> <p>Council's RAS staff will not promote any Council provided services to any potential client to the exclusion of another provider.</p>	



	Council's RAS staff will liaise with all service providers within the region to ensure clients are able to receive the level of service they require.
3)	<p>Compliance and Funding</p> <p>Council acknowledges that there are particular compliance requirements under the CHSP and state HACC funding models concerning funding for the RAS service. Council commits to complying with these requirements so as to receive funding for the RAS service.</p> <p>Council also commits to continue to follow National Competition Policy requirements and the principles of providing best value for service to clients and Council's ratepayers and community.</p>

Policy Authorised:	
Policy Authorisation Review:	