

SANDAS GOVERNANCE POLICY



PURPOSE:

1. This policy clarifies the content of the SANDAS Constitution by making explicit the underlying principles of governance. Note that it does not cover legal or ethical issues concerning the role of the Board or its members, which are addressed elsewhere.
2. This policy also identifies the various elements of the SANDAS governance framework.

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. **The SANDAS Board is an elective, representative, and collective body.**

- It is elective, in that the determination of Board members is the prerogative of members through the election process, as described in the SANDAS Constitution and SANDAS Board Annual Election and Induction Procedure.
- 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, 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 Board members are required to support that decision.

2. **Together, the following elements make up the governance framework for SANDAS:**

- Relevant legislation, Codes of Practice and quality standards – as per the SANDAS Legislation and Standards Register
- SANDAS Constitution
- SANDAS Board and sub-committees, Board Executive, Board Chair and Executive Director - duties are outlined in the SANDAS Management and Board Responsibility Policy
- SANDAS Policies and Procedures
- SANDAS Strategic Directions
- Quality and Risk Management – as per the SANDAS Quality Policy and SANDAS Risk Management Procedure
- Financial management – as per the SANDAS Finance Policy
- Accountability – as per the reporting and board review requirements outlined in the SANDAS Governance Procedure

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LEGISLATION & STANDARDS:

Legislative and quality framework references which relate to the policy.

- Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012
- South Australia Associations Incorporation Act 1985
- ISO 9001:2015
- ACNC Governance Standards

DEFINITIONS/REFERENCES:

- SANDAS Board Annual Election and Induction Procedure
- SANDAS Constitution
- SANDAS Finance Policy
- SANDAS Governance Procedure
- SANDAS Legislation and Standards Register
- SANDAS Management and Board Responsibility Policy
- SANDAS Quality Policy
- SANDAS Risk Management Procedure
- SANDAS Strategic Directions