



Baptist Churches  
of NSW & ACT

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## Role of the Assembly Council

The role of the Assembly Council is to collectively ensure the delivery of the vision of the Baptist Association of NSW and ACT, to set its strategic direction, and to uphold its values.

The Assembly Council should collectively be responsible and accountable for ensuring and monitoring that the organisation is performing well, is solvent, and is complying with all its legal, financial, and ethical obligations.

The responsibilities of the Assembly Council that cannot be delegated to any other person or body include:

- Spiritual oversight – ensuring the ongoing faithfulness of the organisation to its theological convictions and vision, and also remaining consciously seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- Strategic planning – reviewing and approving strategic direction and initiatives.
- Organisational governance – setting or approving policies, plans and budgets to achieve those objectives, and monitoring performance against them.
- Regulatory monitoring – ensuring that the organisation complies with all relevant laws, regulations and regulatory requirements.
- Financial monitoring – reviewing the organisation's budget, monitoring management and financial performance to ensure the solvency, financial strength and good performance of the organisation.
- Financial reporting – considering and approving annual financial statements and required reports to government.
- Organisational structure – setting and maintaining a framework of delegation and internal control.
- Leadership selection – selecting, evaluating the performance of, rewarding and, if necessary, dismissing the Director of Ministries.
- Succession planning – planning for Assembly Council and Director of Ministries (DOM).
- Risk management – reviewing and monitoring the effectiveness of risk management and compliance in the organisation; agreeing or ratifying all policies and decisions on matters which might create significant risk to the organisation, financial or otherwise.
- Dispute management – dealing with and managing high-level conflicts that may arise within the organisation and the movement more broadly.
- Social responsibility – considering the social, ethical and environmental impact of all activities and operations and ensuring these are acceptable.
- Assembly Council performance and composition – evaluating and improving the overall performance of the Assembly Council.

### **Relationship with Management**

Assembly Council should focus on the strategic direction and the core policies of the Association and avoid becoming involved in day-to-day operational decisions. Where individual Assembly Council members do need to become involved in operational matters, they should separate their strategic role (where they operate as part of a group to which management is accountable) from their operational role (where they act at the direction of management).