

Content Governance Playbook

Stop publishing chaos. A strategic framework for defining roles, workflows, and quality standards to keep your content high-performing.

- 28 Defining Roles & Ownership
- The "Publishing Gate" Workflow
- Auditing & Maintenance

Prepared for

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Marketing Leaders

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Content is an Asset, Not an Expense

Most companies treat content like a factory line: produce, publish, forget. This leads to "content rot"—outdated articles, broken links, and conflicting information that damages your brand authority.

Governance is the system that ensures your content remains accurate, relevant, and on-brand long after it hits the "Publish" button.

The Cost of Chaos

Without Governance

- Inconsistent voice across pages.
- Outdated pricing or product info.
- Duplicate content confusing Google.
- Legal risks from unapproved claims.

With Governance

- Clear ownership of every page.
- Defined review cycles (e.g., every 6 months).
- Standardized quality checklists.
- Faster publishing with less risk.

1. Defining Roles & Ownership

If everyone owns the content, no one owns the content. Assign these roles explicitly.

THE OWNER

Usually a Product Manager or Subject Matter Expert. They are responsible for the **accuracy** of the information. They must sign off on the facts.

THE CREATOR

The Writer or Designer. They are responsible for the **quality** and engagement. They translate facts into a compelling story.

THE GATEKEEPER

The Editor or Content Strategist. They are responsible for **consistency** and standards. They hold the keys to the CMS.

THE AUDITOR

Often an SEO specialist or Analyst. They are responsible for **performance**. They flag content that is underperforming or outdated.

2. The Publishing Workflow

A standardized process prevents errors. Do not skip steps.

1. Brief & Concept

Define the goal, audience, and key message. Approved by Owner.

2. Draft & Design

Creator produces the content based on the brief.

3. Review (The Gate)

Gatekeeper checks against Style Guide. Owner checks for accuracy.

4. Staging & QA

Check links, mobile responsiveness, and SEO tags in a test environment.

5. Publish & Monitor

Go live. Monitor analytics for 48 hours for any anomalies.

The Content Calendar

Consistency requires a schedule. Use this cadence as a baseline.

Daily

Social Media Engagement (LinkedIn, Twitter)

Weekly

1x Deep Dive Article (Blog, Newsletter)

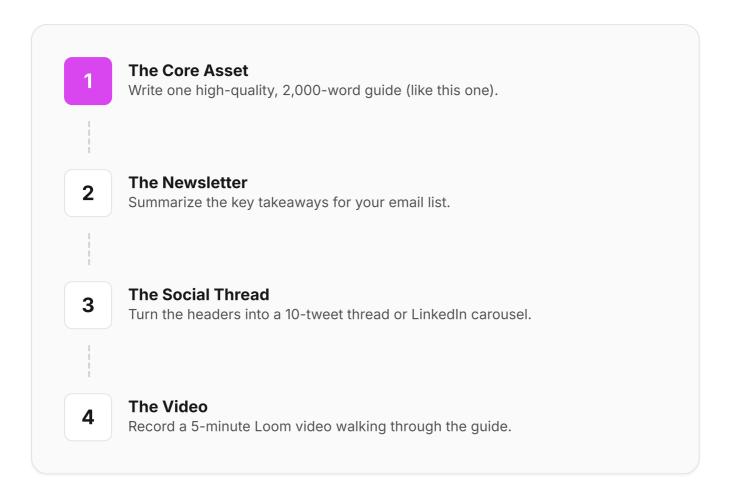
Quarterly

1x Lead Magnet

(E-book, Whitepaper)

The "COPE" Strategy

Create Once, Publish Everywhere. Squeeze every drop of value from your content.



3. The Content Audit

You should audit your content library at least once a year. Use the "ROT" framework.





VisualWeb Opinion: Delete More

We often see clients with 500 blog posts, where 450 of them get zero traffic. These "zombie pages" dilute your site's authority and waste your crawl budget.

Don't be afraid to delete. A lean, high-quality site always outperforms a bloated one. If it hasn't had a visitor in 6 months, kill it.

Need a Governance Strategy?

We help organizations build scalable content operations. From style guides to CMS workflows.

Book a Strategy Call

or email hello@visualweb.co.uk