

Australia Day - Council Policy

Effective Date	20 November 2013
Policy Owner	Communities Manager
Link to Corporate Plan	Active Vibrant Communities
Review Date	July 2023
Related Legislation	<p>Information Privacy Act 2009</p> <p>WDRC Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011</p> <p>WDRC Subordinate Local Law No. 1.14 (Undertaking Regulated Activities on Local Government Controlled Areas and Roads) 2011 - Application required to be submitted for each Australia Day event where relevant</p>
Related Documents	

Policy Version	Approval Date	Adopted/Approved
1	20 November 2013	Ordinary Meeting of Council
2	22 January 2014	Ordinary Meeting of Council
3	15 October 2014	Ordinary Meeting of Council
4	18 March 2015	Ordinary Meeting of Council
5	16 December 2015	Ordinary Meeting of Council
6	17 August 2016	Ordinary Meeting of Council
7	19 September 2018	Ordinary Meeting of Council
8	21 August 2019	Ordinary Meeting of Council

This policy may not be current as Council regularly reviews and updates its policies. The latest controlled version can be found in the policies section of Council's intranet or Website. **A hard copy of this electronic document is uncontrolled.**

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1. PURPOSE

The Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Awards are presented annually and recognise those outstanding persons or groups who make a real contribution and difference to the communities of the Western Downs.

The Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Policy provides clear guidance on the selection and implementation of the Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Awards.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies in respect to the Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Awards program.

3. POLICY

3.1 Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Steering Group

The Australia Day Steering Group comprises:

- Whole of Council (with the Mayor as Chair); and
- Two staff representatives appointed by the Chief Executive Officer as observers and two staff to provide administration support.

The role of the Steering Group is to:

- Assess the nominations in accordance with the selection criteria and select award recipients.
- Determine the focus of the Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Awards Nominations program.

The Steering Group is supported by the Communities Department and Executive Team.

3.2 Awards:

The Council will facilitate the receipt of nominations for and the awarding of Australia Day Awards to recognise the outstanding achievements of persons or groups who make a real contribution and difference to the communities of the Western Downs Region and the defined Districts within the region.

a) Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Local Award Areas:

- Chinchilla & District
- Dalby & District
- Jandowae & District
- Miles & District
- Tara & District
- Wandoan & District

b) Western Downs Regional Council Australia Day Awards:

(i) Regional Awards:

- Citizen of the Year Award
- Young Citizen of the Year Award



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(ii) **Local Awards:**

- Volunteer of the Year Award
- Community Organisation Achievement Award
- Creative Arts Award
- Sports Award

3.3 Protocols:

Nomination Conditions:

- Council may not necessarily make an award in any of the categories in any given year if circumstances arise where granting of an award is not considered appropriate.
- In the event that no nominations are received in any of the categories, the Australia Day Steering Group reserves the right to grant the award to a group or individual of its choice.
- Individuals or groups can self-nominate.
- Councillors, Council Staff and State and Federal elected representatives are eligible for nomination.
- Nominees must reside within the Western Downs Regional Council area, or alternatively, where this is not the case, the nomination must demonstrate that a significant contribution has been made by the nominee to the Western Downs Regional Council community and that they are considered to be part of the community.

