



AUSTRALIA DAY COUNCIL POLICY

Adopted Date: 25 May 2016
Policy Number: GRC 0082
Policy Type: Administrative
Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Department: Executive Office

Version	Decision Number or CEO Approval	Decision Date	Status / History
1	GRC 0082	25 May 2016	Review January 2018
2	Reviewed OM-024/18	28 February 2018	Review January 2021
3	Reviewed March 2021	March 2021	Review March 2023
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1. PURPOSE

The Goondiwindi 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 region.

The Goondiwindi Regional Council Australia Day Policy provides clear guidance on the promotion, selection and implementation of the Goondiwindi Regional Council Australia Day Awards.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

A. Australia Day Steering Group:

The Australia Day Steering Group comprises:

Inglewood/Texas (on a yearly rotational basis)

- Two Councillors nominated by Council, one staff member nominated by the Chief Executive Officer;
- Community representatives as determined by Council including but not limited to representatives from Police, Chamber of Commerce, Education Queensland and Service Clubs.

Goondiwindi and Surrounding Areas (Toobeah, Talwood, Bungunya and Yelarbon)

- Two Councillors nominated by Council, one staff member nominated by the Chief Executive Officer.
- Community representatives as determined by Council including but not limited to representatives from Police, Chamber of Commerce, Education Queensland and Service Clubs.

The role of the Steering Group is to:

- Judge the entries in accordance with the judging criteria (*Appendix A*) and make recommendations to Council in regard to selected award recipients;
- Provide a written report to Council following the Australia Day event for Council's consideration. Notwithstanding this report may highlight the need to change Council's policy on Australia Day Awards.

Australia Day Awards

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Project/Cultural Award/Event of the Year Award
- Senior Sports /Administrator/Coach/Official Award
- Junior Sports Award

B. Award Protocols:

- Nominations will be invited from February each year. The recommendations from the Steering Group will be made to the Council meeting in December for a resolution;
- 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. The Steering Group reserves the right to transfer a nominee into another category if it deems appropriate to do so;
- Individuals or groups can self-nominate;
- Councillors, Council Staff and State and Federal elected representatives are eligible for nomination;
- All nominees to receive a letter of invitation to attend the awards ceremony with a follow up telephone call to ensure attendance or otherwise;
- All unsuccessful nominations for awards are given a Certificate of Appreciation;
- Council reserves the right to accept, reject or refuse any nomination at any time. Council does not accept responsibility for lost, late or misdirected nominations.

C. Official Event/Ceremony Protocols:

- At least one Councillor to participate in each of the official Australia Day Awards ceremonies;
- Council representative's speech to include acknowledgement of traditional owners.

- Council shall participate in the Australia Day Ambassador Program.

D. Event Procedures

- Location: To be determined by Council
- Welcome
- National Anthem
- Ambassador Address
- Address from one school representative as determined by School Principals on a rotational basis
- Award Presentations- Nominations in each category will be acknowledged and called to the stage. A short precis to be read on each nominee called. The successful nominees in each category will be invited to accept their award.
- A right of reply will only be given to the Citizen of the year.

E. Citizen of the Year Role

- The Citizens of the Year to be invited to participate in Council run events throughout the year as a guest of honour.

3. REVIEW DATE

March 2023

4. ATTACHMENTS

Award Judging Criteria

Citizen of the Year Award (27 years and above)	Presented to a resident of Goondiwindi Regional Council who has made a noteworthy contribution to the local community through outstanding service.
Young Citizen of the Year Award (under 27 years of age)	Presented to a young citizen, residing in Goondiwindi Regional Council, who has made a noteworthy contribution to the local community through outstanding service.
Community Project /Cultural/ Community Event of the Year	Presented to an individual, group, club, association or event that has made a noteworthy contribution to the local community.
Junior Sports Award (under 18 years)	Presented to a young individual who has excelled in his / her sporting field or made a noteworthy contribution to sport in the local community.
Senior Sports/Administration Award (18 years and above)	Presented to an individual or team that has excelled in his / her/ their sporting field or made a noteworthy contribution to sport in the local community.

Judging Criteria

Citizen of the Year

- Demonstrated commitment to the betterment of the community
- Is law abiding
- Undertakes activities which have short and long term benefits for others
- Provides a positive role model for others
- Takes the lead
- Shows vision
- Undertakes activities that promote the welfare and wellbeing of the community
- Contributions made by nominee, have been done on a voluntary basis or exceed the normal requirements of **the person's paid work.**

Young Citizen of the Year

- Participates in the community
- Active in youth issues
- Is caring, compassionate and sharing
- Takes the lead
- Shows vision
- Positive role model to peers
- Accepts responsibility for self and others
- Showed outstanding achievement in e.g. academic, sporting, cultural, environme or civic responsibility.