Australia Day Awards Policy

| Policy Number: | 11.3 | |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Policy Category: | Community | |
| Authorised by: | Res-2023-05-129 | |
| Date approved: | 18/05/2023 | |
| Review Date: | 18/05/2025 | |



PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set out the Australia Day Awards categories and guidelines on nominations, ceremonies, eligibility, Australia Day Ambassadors and the award judging panel.

This policy applies to all Longreach Regional Council Australia Day awards, ceremonies and events.

POLICY STATEMENT

Longreach Regional Council recognises the proud heritage and individual identities of the communities of the Longreach Region and uses the annual Australia Day Awards as an opportunity to recognise the significant contribution by members of these communities.

Council has set out the categories for award nominations for each community as follows:

| Longreach | Ilfracombe | Isisford/Yaraka |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Citizen of the Year | Citizen of the Year | Citizen of the Year |
| Senior Achievement of the | Senior Achievement of the | Senior Achievement of the |
| Year (sporting, cultural, | Year (sporting, cultural, | Year (sporting, cultural, |
| individual or team) | individual or team) | individual or team) |
| Junior Achievement of the | Junior Achievement of the | Junior Achievement of the |
| | Year (sporting, cultural, individual or team) | |
| | Community Event or | |
| <i>y</i> 1 | Community Group of the | J 1 |
| Year | Year | Year |

1. Nominations

Nominations for Australia day Awards will be open for a minimum period of six (6) weeks using the designated form. Nominations are called to ensure there is sufficient time to review and decide on award recipients, and to procure award certificates, trophies and to make other ceremonial arrangements.

2. Judging Panel

A judging panel for the Australia Day Awards will be established each year and will consist of the following members from the region:

- The Mayor (or a delegate)
- A member of the Clergy
- A former winner of the Australia Day Awards and
- A member of the Queensland Police Service

The judging panel will assess all nominations using the selection criteria that has been outlined for each award. In the event of a tied vote, the Mayor (or the Mayor's Delegate) shall have the final casting vote.

3. Eligibility

- 1. Nominees must reside within the local government boundary of Longreach Regional Council. Community events must be held within the local government boundary of Longreach Regional Council.
- 2. Nominees cannot have won an award in the same category in the last two consecutive years.
- 3. Nominees must be within the accepted age range of the award.
- 4. Current elected members are not eligible for nomination.

4. Ambassador

Applications will be submitted by Council to the Queensland Government for the ceremonies within the Longreach Region to be attended by an Australia Day Ambassador. A nominated Councillor will escort the ambassador/s to ceremonies and events.

5. Ceremonies

Australia Day ceremonies, consisting of a function and awards presentation, will be organised by Council for Longreach, Ilfracombe and Isisford.

Council will sponsor a community group to provide food and drinks in each community.

6. Events

Community groups are encouraged to organise and/or participate in events to celebrate Australia Day for both the local community benefit and as a fundraising opportunity.

Council may also organise special events e.g. a senior's lunch in each community, children's activities etc., depending upon the annual budget allocation set by Council/ funding.

Authorised by resolution as at 18/05/2023:

Brett Walsh Chief Executive Officer