

AUSTRALIA DAY

ES20



NARRANDERA SHIRE COUNCIL POLICY

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AUSTRALIA DAY



Policy No:	ES20
Policy Title:	Australia Day
Section Responsible:	Executive Services
Minute No:	14/296
MagiQ No:	8361
Next Review Date:	tba

Objective

To provide a set of procedures and standards to follow with regard to the hosting of the annual Australia Day official ceremony and the promotion and selection of suitable award recipients.

Policy Statement

Australia Day, January 26, is a significant day of celebration in the nation and is observed as a public holiday in all states and territories.

On Australia Day we come together as a nation to celebrate what's great about Australia and being Australian. It is the day to reflect on what we have achieved and what we can be proud of in our great nation.

Australia Day Celebrations are underpinned by values such as inclusiveness, celebration of citizenship, equality, tolerance and fairness.

Narrandera Shire undertakes to celebrate the occasion through an array of activities throughout the day with the foremost activity being the official function and presentation of the Australia Day awards.

This policy addresses elements of the official proceedings.

Scope (who does the policy apply to?)

Suitable nominations to be sought for award categories through advertising and canvassing of relevant service groups and community organisations which should commence no later than August each year.

Award nominations are to be sought in accordance with the Australia Award Category Guidelines. (refer attached).

Selection of Award Recipients:

Nominations will be forwarded to a panel of various representatives widely selected from the community who will assess the suitability and merits of each of the applications and make recommendations to Council on suggested recipients.

Council will then make the final decision at the November Ordinary meeting of Council based on the information provided by the selection panel.

Award Winners are to be kept confidential until the presentation on Australia Day. All accepted nominees shall be invited to attend the official function with unsuccessful recipients receiving a token gift on behalf of the Shire.

Definitions

It should be noted that all awards except the “Longstanding Citizen to the Shire” are for excellence in the preceding year only.

Should no nominations be received for a particular category then that award will lapse for that year.

Relevant and easily understood selection criteria and guidelines shall be developed in line with current requirements to ensure that applications are of an acceptable standard.

Applications may be rejected if it is deemed that the information provided is inadequate, irrelevant or in direct contrast to the spirit of the Australia Day Awards.

Council reserves the right to review, vary or revoke this policy.

Content Awards

Citizen of the Year

Criteria: For notable service to the community over a number of years

Young Citizen of the Year (aged between 16 and 24)

Criteria: For notable service to the community during the preceding year

Senior Citizen of the Year

Criteria: For notable service to the community over a number of years

(A nomination for this category will not prevent consideration for the Citizen of the Year nomination)

Organisation of the Year

Criteria: For outstanding service/achievement by an organisation (business, group, club or committee) to the community of the Narrandera Shire in the preceding year

Applications may be rejected if it is deemed that the information provided is inadequate, irrelevant or in direct contrast to the spirit of the Australia Day Awards.

Nominations will be forwarded to the Australia Day Planning Committee consisting of a panel of various representatives widely selected from the community who will assess the suitability and merits of each of the applications and make recommendations to Council on suggested recipients.

Council will then make the final decision on award recipients based on the information provided by the selection panel.

Award winners are to be kept confidential until the presentation of Australia Day. All accepted nominees shall be invited to attend the official function with unsuccessful recipients receiving a token gift on behalf of the Shire.

Recipients of these awards can be Narrandera Shire residents and not necessarily Australian residents.

Roles and Responsibilities

Organisational Arrangements – Narrandera:

Australia Day celebrations and activities will be organised by the Australia Day Committee in conjunction with relevant Council staff. A budget is provided to meet expenses, which shall increase each year with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Venue:

Narrandera will be the principle venue in the Shire for the Australia Day celebrations, with Council supporting the communities of Barellan and Grong Grong in any activities that they have planned for the day.

Australia Day Ambassador Program:

Council will participate each year in the Australia Day Ambassador Program and seek agreement via that program for the chosen Ambassador to include a visit to the townships of Barellan and Grong Grong (in alternate years) in support of their activities.

Naturalisation Ceremony:

Where possible any persons awaiting naturalisation have this undertaken as part of the Australia Day official program.

Review:

A review of the effectiveness of this policy will be conducted after Australia Day each year to ensure that expectations are being met with regard to the success of the program and the practicality of procedures.

Policy History

Endorsed by relevant Committees (name) and date

Adopted by ELT	16 June 2014
Reviewed by Council	19 August 2014
Adopted by Council	14 October 2014
Reviewed	type full date
Amended	tba

JACharlton

Signed: General Manager

Date: 15 October 2014