

**COUNCIL
MEMBERS'
MANAGED
POLICIES**

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POLICY TITLE: ACCESS POLICY

Policy No. 101

POLICY PURPOSE

Alice Springs Town Council will strive to meet access needs in terms of public infrastructure, transport, information, communication and attitudes irrespective of socio-economic status, culture, gender, language or physical or mental ability of the members of the community.

In so doing, Council will work in partnership with government, non government organisations and the business and community sectors to achieve long-term, positive outcomes for those in the community who require special access considerations.

POLICY STATEMENT

Alice Springs Town Council recognises the rights of all people to have equal access to the Council's facilities and services.

Council will work to incorporate the rights-based focus of the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992, in all its services, including the:

- Elimination of discrimination in mainstream services rather than establishing separate parallel "special" services.
- Ensuring equal access for people with disabilities rather than simply improving or enhancing access.
- Addressing all barriers, including physical, information, communication and attitudinal barriers and
- Addressing the rights of all people with disabilities with reference to the broad definition of "disability" in the DDA.

Refer to attached document "Access Procedures and Action Plan" that supports this policy.

POLICY TITLE: ANZAC HILL FLAGS

Policy No. 102

POLICY PURPOSE

To ensure control of flags flown on Anzac Hill.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Council will permit only the Australian National Flag and/or the Northern Territory flag to be flown from the flag poles on Anzac Hill.

POLICY TITLE: CIVIC CENTRE - FLAGS

Policy No. 103

POLICY PURPOSE

To ensure control regarding flags that may be flown at the Civic Centre.

POLICY STATEMENT

No flag other than that of Australia, the Northern Territory, the Aboriginal flag, and the Council pennant shall ordinarily be flown from the masthead at the Civic Centre, provided that on ceremonial occasions flags of other countries or other flags may also be flown in strict accordance with the rules of flag protocol.

**POLICY TITLE: CIVIC CENTRE – CLOSURE FOR CHRISTMAS
AND NEW YEAR**

Policy No. 104

POLICY PURPOSE

The number of public holidays between Christmas and New Year mean it is practical and economically advantageous to have the Civic Centre closed during this period.

POLICY STATEMENT

That Council will close the Civic Centre (for the Christmas period each year) from close of business on 24 December (except where that day falls on a weekend or Monday in which case the last business day for that year will be the preceding Friday) until commencement of business on 2 January in the following year (except where that day falls on a weekend in which case the first business day for the following year will be the following Monday) provided that:-

- (a) staff take the leave required first from Rostered Days Off and Time in Lieu accumulated in accordance with the Alice Springs Town Council Workplace Partnership Agreement 2003 and any succeeding agreement and secondly from accumulated annual leave;
- (b) the Public is made fully aware of the closure period each year through an appropriate public awareness campaign; and
- (c) the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to vary this policy by one or more days in any particular year, in consultation with the Mayor.

POLICY PURPOSE

Members recognize and accept that the purpose of this policy is to assist them in the fulfillment of their obligations to Council, electors, ratepayers and the public at large by fostering a climate of ethical awareness in conduct and decision-making in public life.

POLICY STATEMENT

Members have a duty to uphold the law and to act on all occasions in accordance with the law, the policies of Council and the trust placed in them by the public. They have a duty to act in the best interests of Council and the Municipality of Alice Springs.

Members acknowledge that without detracting in any way from their legislative obligations, they also have a duty to abide by the principles of good personal conduct when carrying out their duties.

Refer to attached document "Code of Conduct" that supports this policy via definitions and specific codes.

POLICY PURPOSE

The Alice Springs Town Council's Community Consultation framework has been adopted to guide Council in undertaking consultation as well as clearly defining the ways in which the community will be involved in governance and decision making through an effective communication and consultation process.

Council undertakes a range of diverse services, projects and activities. This framework will guide Council in determining the appropriate level of impact of an issue and the appropriate level of community participation required.

POLICY STATEMENT

Alice Springs Town Council will consult clearly with specified purposes. Consultation will recognise the rights of citizens and stakeholders and Council will listen to all ideas and comments put forward. Information presented to the community will be clear, appropriate and easy to understand.

Consultation will ensure that the needs of a group or an individual will be identified and reflected in the consultation process, and once a decision is made, participants will be informed of the decision and the reasons behind it.

Refer to attached document "Community Consultation Framework" that supports this policy via consultation principles, issues, methods and a checklist.

**POLICY TITLE: COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES
MEMBERS ENQUIRIES**

Policy No. 107

POLICY PURPOSE

To ensure that Council meetings function in an efficient and effective manner.

POLICY STATEMENT

Elected Members should make their Council and Committee report enquiries to the CEO or Department Director(s) prior to the meetings whenever possible to save time at meetings and assist in the smooth operation of such meetings.

POLICY TITLE: HONORARY AMBASSADORS

Policy No. 108

POLICY PURPOSE

To further promote Alice Springs and Central Australia as desirable business and tourism destinations.

POLICY STATEMENT

In order to further promote Alice Springs and Central Australia as desirable business and tourism destinations, Council will establish and maintain an Honorary Ambassador program.

Refer to attached document "Background, Definition and Procedures – Honorary Ambassadors" that supports this policy.

POLICY PURPOSE

To recognise the visit of certain individuals to Alice Springs in a special way and in so doing promote Alice Springs to the recipients of such certificates

POLICY STATEMENT

The Council will issue, from time to time, Honorary Citizen Certificates to selected dignitaries and visitors to Alice Springs.

All recipients of an Honorary Citizen Certificate are to be approved or ratified by the Council.

All certificates shall be fixed with the Seal of the Council and shall be presented at an official occasion, such as a Council or Mayoral reception.

POLICY PURPOSE

The Alice Springs Town Council wishes to convey a strong, consistent and positive image at all times.

Council wishes to ensure that only consistent and well informed statements are presented to the media.

POLICY STATEMENT

1. Council will do all that is reasonable to assist the media to report on Council's business and matters of public interest and will provide all media outlets with fair and equal access to Council information.
2. Council will keep the community informed of matters within its purview by providing information to the media and responding appropriately to media comment and enquiries concerning Council and its activities.
3. Council is committed in providing all media outlets with fair and equal access to such information.
4. All media statements and official comment made on behalf of Council should reflect the decisions made by Council as stated in its adopted resolutions or the positions taken by Council as articulated in its strategic and policy documents.
5. As a general principle, only the Mayor, the Chairpersons of relevant Committees or the CEO should make official comment to the media and its representatives.

Refer to attached document "Media Relations Procedures" that supports this policy via definitions and procedures.

POLICY TITLE: JOINT DEFENCE FACILITY PINE GAP

Policy No. 111

POLICY PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to state Council's position in respect of the continued presence of the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap.

POLICY STATEMENT

Council supports the retention of the Australian/American Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap, and acknowledges the importance of this Facility for the defence of Australian territory and for the economic and social benefit of Alice Springs.

Refer to attached document “Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap” that supports this policy via important background information.

POLICY PURPOSE

To achieve a standard of professional excellence in the planning and execution of all public art projects.

Develop a relevant, diverse and exciting collection of public art which celebrates local identity and essence of place and is of a recognised high standard within Australia and abroad.

POLICY STATEMENT

Council will ensure a dynamic and professional approach to Public Art, supporting the goals and strategies outlined in the Alice Springs Strategic Plan.

Council will:

- Identify sources of funding for the creation of new works of public art.
- Identify opportunities for including Public Art and employing artists.
- Consult the community appropriately.
- Engage the best artists to create the best works, ensuring that their vision is fully realised and maintained.
- Create and install the work in timely, efficient and safe manner, within an identified set budget.
- Maintain and conserve the Public Art collection in professional manner.
- Ensure that Public Art works are attributed, promoted and recorded correctly.
- Provide education and information regarding public art in the region.
- Identify when and how a work should be dealt with when it is considered to be no longer appropriate to its location.

Refer to attached document "Public Art Procedure" that supports this policy via background information, definitions and procedures.

POLICY PURPOSE

To enhance the health and quality of life of residents and visitors of Alice Springs.

POLICY STATEMENT

Council will actively encourage the development of a community in which individuals have the opportunity to access appropriately priced, located and promoted recreation and sports facilities, programs, services and other options of their choice regardless of age, sex, income, ability and ethnicity.

Its approach will be underpinned by recognition that:

- Recreation encompasses a wide range of active and passive options, as well as sporting and other leisure pursuits;
- Council is a major provider of recreation facilities;
- The provision of recreation opportunities is an integral component of overall community health;
- Council has a leadership role in providing high quality regional, interstate or international competitions;
- Council has a responsibility to ensure its recreational facilities are used and maintained efficiently and effectively;
- Council will ensure an equitable distribution of resources across the municipality;
- A dynamic and vibrant community is reflected in the strength and diversity of involvement in recreation;
- Recreation and sporting facilities and open space are an important and necessary aspect of community life in Alice Springs.
- Council undertakes a variety of roles to ensure a wide range of recreation and sporting opportunities is available; and
- Council will work in partnership with Territory and Federal Government, community and commercial organisations to achieve its goals regarding recreation activities in Alice Springs.

POLICY STATEMENT

That this Council affirms its commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its fundamental principle that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights; they are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of common humanity, without distinction of any kind such as race, colour, sex, language, religion or birth.