



TITLE: FLAGS POLICY

REFERENCE NUMBER:	DOC/17/47589
RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT:	Council Services
APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:	Local Government Act 1999 Flags Protocol –Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
MOUNT BARKER 2035 DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN :	CW 2.1 – Building a community that works in partnership with government and non-government organisations to achieve real and long-lasting improvements in safety and wellbeing.
RELATED POLICIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Equality and Diversity Policy
SUPPORTING PROCEDURES:	Nil
ENDORSED BY COUNCIL:	5 June 2017
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	1 June 2021

1. POLICY STATEMENT

This policy provides Council with principles and guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices and other identified open spaces under Council control. The policy will assist Council to address requests to fly particular flags at particular times while ensuring the Council continues to foster a sense of local and national pride in the community.

The development of this policy has taken into account requirements of the Flag Protocols issued by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The primary policy objectives of this Policy are to:

- 2.1 Provide guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices and other identified open spaces under Council control where flags are flown
- 2.2 Encourage a sense of local and national pride
- 2.3 Utilise opportunities to promote worthy causes and bring attention to social issues

3. DEFINITIONS

“Flag Protocols” means the Flag Protocols issued by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, as varied from time to time.

4. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Council

- To adopt a policy with principles and guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices and other identified open spaces under Council control.

Chief Executive Officer:

- To ensure that guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices and other identified open spaces under Council control are adhered to.

General Manager:

- To ensure the relevant Manager is responsible for implementing the guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices and other identified open spaces under Council control.

5. POLICY INFORMATION

The Council recognises and will abide by the Flag Protocols, including directions issued to fly flags at half-mast in relation to certain events and occasions.

5.1 The Council will normally fly three flags at the Civic Centre . The three flags generally flown, in order of precedence as defined in the Flag Protocols, are:

- The Australian National Flag
- The Aboriginal Flag
- The Mount Barker District Council ensign

5.2 To commemorate or recognise special days, weeks or events of significance, flags particular to the occasion may be flown, generally in place of the Mount Barker District Council ensign.

5.3 For the purpose of point 5.2, days, weeks or events of significance include those falling into categories such as:

- Days of national significance promoted by the Australian Government,
- Events promoting social cohesion and inclusion,
- Occasions to recognise the contributions of non-government organisations to the community
- Events or instances showing solidarity with other communities in times of need

5.4 The Council will not use flag flying to engage in matters of contention such as international border disputes.

5.5 The administration of the policy is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate.

6. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every four years or earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures or if deemed necessary by the General Manager, Council Services.

7. ACCESS TO THE POLICY

The Policy is available for public inspection at the Customer Service Centre, at the Local Government Centre, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker, South Australia and on the Council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au.

8. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Policy, please contact:

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