

Council Policy

Flags



COUNCIL POLICY

 <p>Adelaide Hills COUNCIL</p>	FLAGS POLICY
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Policy Number:	COM-16
Responsible Department(s):	Community Capacity
Other Relevant Policies:	Nil
Relevant Procedure(s):	Flag Flying Procedure
Relevant Legislation:	Flags Act 1953 (Cwth)
Policies and Procedures Superseded by this policy on its Adoption:	Flags Policy, 14 July 2015, Item 12.6, 32
Adoption Authority:	Council
Date of Adoption:	24 July 2018
Effective From:	7 August 2018
Minute Reference for Adoption:	Item 12.6, 169/18
Next Review:	No later than July 2021 or as required by legislation or changed circumstances

FLAGS POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

The policy provides Council and its administration with principles and guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices. 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. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of this policy are:

- To provide guidelines for the flying of flags at Council offices;
- To encourage a sense of local and national pride; and
- To 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. POLICY STATEMENT

4.1 Principles

The following principles underpin the policy position:

- 4.1.1 The flying of flags represents an opportunity to demonstrate and foster a sense of pride in the community;
- 4.1.2 The flying of specific flags for particular events and occasions can bring attention to the cause or event concerned;
- 4.1.3 Flag flying should be done with respect and with sensitivity to community expectations.

4.2 Policy Position

- 4.2.1 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.
- 4.2.2 The Council will fly three flags at each of its customer service centres. The three flags generally flown, in order of precedence as defined in the Flag Protocols, are:

- a. The Australian National Flag
- b. The Aboriginal Flag
- c. The Adelaide Hills Council ensign.

4.2.3 To commemorate or recognise special days, weeks or events of significance, flags particular to the occasion may be flown, generally in place of the Adelaide Hills Council ensign.

4.2.4 For the purpose of point 4.2.3, days, weeks or events of significance include those falling into categories such as:

- Days of national significance promoted by the Australian Government, including such events as United Nations Day, NAIDOC Week and Reconciliation Week;
- Events promoting social cohesion and inclusion, such as Feast Festival and International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia;
- Occasions to recognise the contributions of non-governmental organisations to the community;
- Showing solidarity with other communities in times of need.

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

4.2.6 For the sake of expediency, the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, will be responsible for making determinations about flag flying in line with this policy.

5. DELEGATION

5.1 The Chief Executive Officer has the delegation to:

- Approve, amend and review any procedures that shall be consistent with this Policy; and
- Make any formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes to the Policy during the period of its currency.

6. AVAILABILITY OF THE POLICY

6.1 This Policy will be available for inspection at the Council's Offices during ordinary business hours and via the Council's website www.ahc.sa.gov.au. Copies will also be provided to the public upon request, and upon payment of a fee in accordance with the Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.