

POLICY NO CB04 YOUTH POLICY

DEPARTMENT: Community Services

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: Manager Community Services

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: To strengthen our sense of community and lifestyle through opportunities for people to connect and feel valued

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: N/A

OBJECTIVE:

The objectives of this policy are to:

- a. Outline Break O'Day Council's commitment to young people aged 12 to 25 years.
- b. Facilitate a strategic approach to Council's support, consideration or involvement in youth focused outcomes in Break O'Day.
- c. Clarify the involvement of Council in youth focused actions in Break O'Day.
- d. Provide guidance on how Council might work with others on youth focused actions in Break O'Day.

POLICY INFORMATION:

Adopted 19 March 2012 – Minute No 03/12.15.4.069
Amended 19 April 2017 – Minute No 04/17.14.2.96
Amended 19 December, 2022 - Minute No 12/22.15.6.260

POLICY

DEFINITION

“Youth or Young People” Refers to people aged 12 to 25 years, as per the State and Australian Government definition of youth

INTRODUCTION

This policy will guide Council decisions and actions within the scope of the policy. It aims to facilitate access and inclusion of young people aged 12-25 to services, supports and facilities for their enjoyment and ongoing development as valued community members/citizens.

This Policy encourages consultation and engagement with partners involved in supporting or working directly with young people in the Break O'Day municipality.

This policy recognises the six domains of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy – It takes a Tasmanian Village, 2021:

1. Being loved, safe and valued
2. Having material basics
3. Being Healthy
4. Learning
5. Participating
6. Having a positive sense of culture and identity

Council will work in accordance with and guide our partners to work in accordance with Tasmania's Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework.

Council has a role to consider these domains when making decisions about outcomes that impact young people in Break O'Day.

POLICY PRIORITIES

The priority areas for Council in supporting youth outcomes are:

- 1. Supporting the work of others** - This includes: participating in networks, providing letters of support for funding applications to address identified gaps and needs in youth services; supporting new initiatives.
- 2. Educational and Employment Opportunities** - This includes: working in partnership with our schools, employment providers, business and industry networks, and community organisations and groups to advocate for and support provision of training and development opportunities for young people in the Break O'Day municipality.
- 3. Engagement, Advocacy and Influencing** - This includes: consulting with partners engaged in youth work and other young people when formulating Council strategies and plans; advocating to other levels of government on key issues impacting young people in our community; opportunities for direct discussions with Councillors; and advocacy for increased programs and facilities for young people.
- 4. Access to Healthy and Safe Places and Experiences** - This includes: providing appropriate places for young people to gather and connect; building and maintaining infrastructure for young people; collaboration with partners on youth focused activities, events and cultural programs; providing community grants to support a wide range of community development and recreational opportunities.

RELATED POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

This policy relates to and depends on other Council policies and strategies, as well as legislation, including but not limited to:

- a. Break O'Day Council Strategic Plan 2017-2027
- b. Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy 2022 - LG13
- c. Community Engagement Strategy 2022
- d. Break O'Day Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2014
- e. Youth Strategy
- f. *Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (State)*
- g. *Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Commonwealth)*
- h. *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*