KING ISLAND COUNCIL

Policy

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Responsible Officer: GENERAL MANAGER

Date: 30 July 2024

Review Date: 30 July 2028

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to define council's commitment to creating and maintaining a Child Safe Organisation for the King Island Council (KIC). This policy outlines council's position and responsibilities toward the safeguarding of children and young people in our physical and online environments.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Safe guarding and young people procedure.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to all Council employees and representatives including:

- Mayor and Councillors;
- full-time, part-time, and casual employees;
- permanent and temporary employees performing work for Council, including work experience students, apprentices, interns, and trainees;
- temporary and casual individuals engaged through an agency;
- staff on secondment from another role or another council;
- volunteers; and
- contractors, or consultants directly engaged/renumerated by Council.

This is irrespective of their involvement in child related work. There are no exclusions to the application of this policy.

3 LEGISLATION

This policy relates to Council's obligations under the:

- *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023 (Tas)*

4 POLICY

4.1 KING ISLAND COUNCIL CHILD SAFE STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

- We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people while enabling their participation as valued members of our community.

- We have zero tolerance to child abuse and harm. Our people are obligated to prioritise the safety of the children they interact with in the performance of their role and to report conduct of concern.
- We recognise the importance of child and youth safety in the provision of quality community services. All children who attend services, programs, events, and community spaces (including online environments) that are delivered, owned, contracted, or managed by council, have the right to feel safe, be safe, and be heard.
- We recognise our legal and moral responsibilities in keeping children and young people safe and have robust policies and procedures in place to meet this commitment that are aligned with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.
- We want children to thrive, be safe, happy, and empowered, and are dedicated to ensuring their views are listened to and respected, and they are given opportunities to contribute to how we plan and deliver our services that affect them.
- We recognise the importance of maintaining a robust recruitment policy and procedure addressing the safety of children and young people.
- We are committed to being a Child Safe Organisation

4.2 POLICY CONTEXT

Council is committed to the safety of Children and Young People. We are legally required to comply with the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework, which aims to protect children from abuse and harm.

Definitions	
Term	**Meaning**
Council	King Island Council
Councillor	An elected member of Council known as a Councillor or Alderman or otherwise meeting the definition of a 'councillor' as defined under section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (TAS)
Employee	A person who carries out work for Council as an employee of Council.
General Manager	The General Manager of Council as appointed under section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (TAS).
Manager/Supervisor	A person at the workplace who is appointed to a position that has management/supervisory responsibilities for others or their appropriately nominated or authorised delegate.
Other Persons at the Workplace	A person, other than a Councillor, who carries out work in any capacity for Council, including work as: (a) a contractor or subcontractor;

	(b) an employee of a contractor or subcontractor; (c) an employee of a labour hire company who has been assigned to work at Council; (d) an apprentice or trainee; (e) a student gaining work experience; or (f) a volunteer.
Policy	Safeguarding children and young people policy
Workplace	A place where work is carried out for Council.

References:

Adopted 30 July 2024 – Council Resolution No 185/24

POLICY VERSION AND REVISION INFORMATION

Title: Safeguarding Children and Young People policy

Policy Maintained by: Community Development Manager

Policy Commencement: 30 July 2024

Policy Review: 30 July 2028

Version No	Date	Resolution No	Responsible Officer
1.0	30.7.2024	185/24	Community Development Manager