

TITLE

C191 KING ISLAND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY

DEPARTMENT

Corporate Services

POLICY DIRECTIVE

To establish the King Island Youth Advisory Committee as a Special Committee of Council in accordance with s24 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

To adopt the *Terms of Reference* as Policy of Council.

HISTORY

Council adopted its King Island Youth Advisory Committee Policy at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 19 February 2008 as per resolution No 36/08.

POLICY

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND

Council established a Youth Reference Group/Steering Committee in 2000. Funding from the State Government was successfully obtained in 2001 to employ a part time youth worker and the King Island Youth Action Group and KIYAG was formed.

In February 2002, following a consultation with the community, King Island Council adopted a Youth Policy with the primary goal being '*the development and use of collaborative community response mechanisms to validate the role and value of young people in community life.*'

Over the next couple of years, funding was obtained from the Commonwealth (through recurrent Regional Health Service funds and some specific project funds that were allocated to the Cradle Coast Authority) as well as from the State Government. These funds are used through a local partnership between the Council and King Island District High School to employ a full time Youth Development Officer. The position is divided equally between a Regional Health Service funded Youth Access Program position based at Council and a Pathway Planning Officer position based at King Island District High School. This arrangement arose directly from the relationships developed with key stakeholders through membership of the Youth Steering Committee. It is a working example of a collaborative, locally initiated response to young people's participation in an isolated and remote community, with limited human, financial and structural resources.

Some of the keys to the success of KIYAG are its grassroots nature and bottom up approach. Young people can access a youth dedicated worker in a number of different roles and settings and have flexibility to decide how and where to focus their energy. The group's relationship with the community based Youth Steering Committee provides additional support.

KIYAG have been actively involved in National Youth Week activities every year since 2001. This has included raft races, triathlons, rock concerts, skate competitions, music workshops and multimedia workshops. KIYAG members have also been involved in running movies, discos and other activities and participated regularly in the King Island Agricultural Show. Two KIYAG members have been King Island Young Citizens of the Year in the past three years.

Youth Steering Committee members ratified Terms of Reference for the committee on Monday 12 July 2004. At the meeting held on 1 November 2007 the committee members voted unanimously to change the name of the committee from Youth Steering Committee to Youth Advisory Committee.

Mission

- The King Island Youth Advisory Committee works collaboratively to enhance the well being of young people between 12 and 25 living on King Island.

Goals

- Fulfil the role of Advisory Committee on youth issues on King Island.
- Provide support for the Youth Development Officer and in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the Youth Access Program and the Pathway Planning Program.

Strategies

- Assist with the development of annual Regional Health Service Youth Program work plan – July.
- Be key stakeholder in the annual review of the King Island Council Youth Policy – November.
- Pathway Planning – community linkages, support for role and activities as well as promoting concept of lifelong learning.
- Human resource support for major events/activities run by the Youth Access Program.
- Provide links to broader community networks.
- Be a two way conduit for information between committee and community.

OPERATING RULES

1. The King Island Youth Advisory Committee will operate as a special committee of the King Island Council under the *Local Government Act 1993*.
2. The Committee will:
 - Provide advice to the Council on matters concerning the Youth Access Program and Pathway Planning strategic direction and planning.
 - Support the work of the Youth Development Officer and provide guidance to the development of their annual Work Plan.
 - Liaise with the general community to promote the program activities and be a conduit for information and feedback for the community.

3. The membership of the group will consist of :
 - King Island Council – Two elected members appointed by the Mayor
 - King Island Council – Officer appointed by the General Manager
 - King Island District High School –Nominated by Principal
 - King Island District Hospital – Nominated by the Director of Nursing
 - Tasmania Police - Representative
 - Inter Church Council Representative
 - Young Persons’ Representative
 - Industry Representative (e.g. employment agencies)
 - Youth Development Officer (Secretariat)
4. The Committee is to ratify appointment of representatives, for a maximum term of two years.
5. The Committee is able to accept resignations and ratify additional representative appointments as required.
6. The Group is to meet quarterly and copies of the minutes are to be provided to each of the members and Council within 14 days of the meeting.
7. The Chairperson will be nominated by the committee for a twelve month term at their first meeting each year.
8. The Youth Development Officer will undertake secretariat functions.
9. The Committee is an advisory committee and is not permitted to hold a bank account or have any financial transactions.
10. The Chairperson is the only person authorised to make any public comment or issue media statements on behalf of the group.
11. A quorum at a Group meeting is four eligible members.
12. A vote of the Group is to be by a show of hands unless the Chairperson considers another method more appropriate.
13. For a motion to be passed it will require a simple majority of the eligible members present.
14. Each of the eligible members is only entitled to one vote.
Note: an “eligible member” is a representative of the business or organisation listed or any other member that has been ratified by the group.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION