



## Youth Policy

<b>Reference Number:</b>	4.14
<b>Type:</b>	Council
<b>Category:</b>	Safety and Community
<b>Relevant Community Plan Outcome:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In our City no one gets left behind; everyone has access to quality resources, services, programs, information and social infrastructure to fully participate in their community</li> <li>• Charles Sturt is made up of strong and vibrant communities; we celebrate our identity, heritage and cultural diversity. People feel a sense of belonging, inclusion and social connectedness</li> <li>• A well-designed urban environment that is adaptive to a diverse and growing City</li> <li>• Support diverse events and experiences that bring people together and contribute to the history, culture and virality of our neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Enhance the diversity of open spaces to create innovative, accessible and flexible community spaces</li> <li>• Our values, leadership and collaborative approach are bold and courageous and enables us to deliver value for our Community and create a leading liveable City</li> </ul>
<b>Responsible Officer(s):</b>	Manager Community Connections
<b>First Issued/Approved:</b>	December 2003
<b>Minutes Reference:</b>	CoS 5/06/2023, Item 4.28
<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	June 2023
<b>Next Review Due:</b>	June 2025
<b>Applicable Legislation:</b>	<p>Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017</p> <p>Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) Act 2016</p>
<b>Related Policies:</b>	<p>Children and Vulnerable Persons Policy</p> <p>Public Consultation Policy</p> <p>Customer Experience Policy</p> <p>External Grants Funding Policy</p> <p>Social Inclusion Policy</p> <p>Volunteer Policy</p>
<b>Related Procedures:</b>	<p>Community Services Framework: A framework for building community wellbeing</p> <p>Community Wellbeing Monitor</p>

## 1. Purpose

As a discreet sector of the population and recipients of the legacy we leave, Council has an obligation to recognise young people in our City. In line with our Community and Corporate Plans this policy will:

- Guide Council's vision for the future development of our young people in accordance with our Community Plan objectives.
- Define the scope of Council's role in responding to issues pertaining to young people.
- Assist with planning and delivering Council services to meet the needs of young people.
- Contribute to maintaining a cohesive and supportive community which values young people.
- Provide a set of principles to guide decision making by Elected Members, management and staff.

## 2. Scope

The main focus for this policy is to guide strategic planning and development of initiatives relating to young people.

All business units across Council should consider the impact of their work on and for young people and this policy is intended as a guide to that work. Best practice should include liaising with the youth team on any project or activity that involves or affects young people.

## 3. Policy Statement

The City of Charles Sturt is committed to the following Principles.

### 3.1 Principles

The following principles and values underpin the policy and ensuing strategies:

- 3.1.1 Recognition of young people as stakeholders in the City of Charles Sturt
- 3.1.2 Working collaboratively with young people, organisations, and other levels of government to be inclusive of young people across the City of Charles Sturt
- 3.1.3 Empowerment of young people so they can exercise choice and be effective in asserting their views and aspirations
- 3.1.4 Equity of participation – young people have diverse needs which may require special provisions to enable them to take up opportunities
- 3.1.5 Access – encouraging access for young people to services, facilities and opportunities to exercise active citizenship

### 3.2 Demonstrating Council Commitment

- 3.2.1 Advocate for our local young people to other levels of government, peak bodies, service providers and other relevant stakeholders on matters of public policy and to attract a broad range of local services and facilities to meet the needs of young people

- 3.2.2 Plan and implement programs and services to reflect changing priorities and identified gaps
- 3.2.3 Consider the needs of young people in planning processes, the delivery of core services and design of new programs, projects and initiatives
- 3.2.4 Consult young people on their lives and foster young people as decision and change makers to build community wellbeing
- 3.2.5 Encourage and facilitate participation by young people in community life
- 3.2.6 Celebrate and recognise young people within our community
- 3.2.7 Encourage a feeling of community pride amongst young people
- 3.2.8 Foster good relationships between young people and others in the community, including intergenerational connections
- 3.2.9 Work cooperatively with young people, relevant service providers, neighbouring Councils, other levels of Government, and other relevant stakeholders to address youth issues and needs
- 3.2.10 Encourage employment opportunities for young people
- 3.2.11 Promote information of interest to young people about services, facilities and opportunities within the local area.

#### 4. Definitions

Key Term – Acronym	Definition
Youth/Young people	Young people aged between 12 to 25
Active Citizenship	<p>‘Refers to involvement and informed participation in the civic and political activities of society at local... levels’</p> <p><i><a href="http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/humanities-and-social-sciences/civics-and-citizenship/glossary">http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/humanities-and-social-sciences/civics-and-citizenship/glossary</a></i></p>