



STRATEGIC POLICY

MOUNT ISA CITY COUNCIL

Youth Policy

RESOLUTION NO. OM04/07/25 VERSION V2

APPLIES TO STRATEGIC POLICIES ONLY

This an official copy of the **Youth Policy**, made in accordance with the provisions of *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012*, *Public Records Act 2002*, *Mount Isa City Council Local Laws*, *Subordinate Local Laws* and current Council policies.

Strategic policies are adopted by Council due to its desire to influence the direction of an issue or assist in the delegated decision making of Council officers. Strategic policies should follow the jurisdiction provided to Council through its Corporate Plan; the **Youth Policy** is approved by the Mount Isa City Council for the operations and procedures of Council.

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Tim Rose
Chief Executive Officer

DOCUMENT VERSION CONTROL			
Governance/Policies/Strategic 734011			POLICY TYPE Strategic (Council)
VERSION	DATE	RESOLUTION	DETAILS
V1	14.11.2007	G07/11/07	Responsible Officer – Communications & Marketing Officer
V2	03.07.2025	OM04/07/25	Responsible Officer – Manager, Economic & Community Development
			REVIEW DUE 07/2028

DISTRIBUTION AND DISSEMINATION			
Internal email to all employees	X	Section meetings / Toolbox talks	
Internal email to all councillors	X	Included in employee inductions	X
Staff noticeboards		Uploaded to Council website	X
Internal training to be provided		External training to be provided	
Registered in Magiq	X		

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide Mount Isa City Council ("Council") in decision making and project delivery that impacts young people in the region.

Council recognises the importance of young people to the future of the community and the value of including young people and facilities for the region. Council is committed to addressing the needs of youth in our region, both directly and indirectly through collaboration with other agencies and non-governmental organisations. Emphasis will be placed on building partnerships, encouraging young people to have a voice and support them in their journey.

2. COMMENCEMENT

This Policy will commence on and from 3 July 2025. It replaces all other policies or arrangements governing youth interaction and involvement (whether written or not).

3. APPLICATION

This policy applies to all young people in Mount Isa City Council local government area. The policy will apply to all aspects of delivery of services to young people by Council.

4. DEFINITIONS

TERM / ACRONYM	MEANING
Young people	those between the ages of 12 and 25 years
Youth Development	The process which aims to prepare young people to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood through a coordinated, progressive series of activities and experiences that will help them to become socially, morally, emotionally, physically, and cognitively competent. Positive youth development focuses on the broader development needs of young people as opposed to solely focusing on youth problems.

5. POLICY STATEMENT

Council recognises young people are a diverse and valuable part of the community, and they have both common and individual needs. In an endeavour to support these needs, Council is committed to a set of guiding principles that assist and inform its level of response to youth identified aspirations, needs, and issues. Likewise, Council further recognises young people must be supported and encouraged to develop an understanding of personal responsibility to effectively integrate into the community.

Youth are an important and large demographic in Mount Isa, 20.9% (3,825) of our community is aged between the 10 and 24 years (ABS 2021).

This policy is underpinned by four core principles:

Connect

Enable opportunities for you to find a sense of identity and connection to community is critical, create a connection to culture, dedicate a communication channel between Council and young people.

Activate

Increase the capacity of youth and youth organisations to allow for safe and inviting places to go, offer out of hours support for at risk youth, and allow for a safe community environment for all youth.

Influence

Provide opportunities for young people to have a voice about issues that affect them and have a say in development and enable youth to collaboratively engage in designing programs and services for youth.

Amplify

Recognise young people are experts in their own life experiences, allow youth to participate in civic life and understand and appreciate their opinions.

5.1 Objectives

The objective of this policy is to:

- Confirm Council's commitment to young people, and the services provided to them within the local government area of Mount Isa
- Articulate Council's vision for the future of young people within the Mount Isa Local Government area
- Outline methods that will be used by Council to ensure that young people are supported and encouraged to reach their potential as both individuals and active community members
- Provide overarching principles for the inclusion of young people in Council's activities of consultation, planning, and development in providing for the future of Mount Isa, and
- Guide Council's position and direction of youth services, including Council's support role with other youth service partners.

5.2 Council's Commitment

The Mount Isa City Council will support the implementation of the policy framework principles by:

- Understanding the needs of young people and advocating, planning, developing and (where appropriate) delivering services to young people based on this understanding and other council knowledge and policies
- Lobbying State and Federal Governments for resources to ensure integrated and quality services and activities are available to young residents of the Mount Isa City Council Local Government area
- Working in partnership with State and Federal Governments, the educational and training sector, and private business to ensure that Mount Isa is a prosperous community which encourages and embraces its young people so they can lead fulfilling lives
- Providing physical infrastructure for young people to enjoy and use – such as skate parks, libraries, meeting spaces, sporting facilities, swimming pools and parks
- Providing young people the opportunity to comment, input, and participate in issues and decisions that affect the community, and
- Seeking and promoting opportunities to assist young people to grow into future leaders with knowledge, optimism and purpose.

6. VARIATIONS

Council reserves the right to vary, replace or terminate this policy from time to time.

7. COMMUNICATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Council will make the Youth Policy available to all staff on the MICC Intranet.

8. BREACH OF POLICY

Where Council reasonably believes an employee has breached this policy, the matter will be dealt with under the Performance and Misconduct Policy.

9. ASSOCIATED LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

- *Local Government Act 2009*

10. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Mount Isa Youth Strategy 2023-2027