

**ITEM 6 POLICY REVIEW: CITY OF WOLLONGONG FLAG COUNCIL POLICY**

The City of Wollongong Flag Policy provides guidelines for the use of the Wollongong City Flag. This policy has been reviewed as part of the scheduled review of Council policies.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The City of Wollongong Flag Council Policy be adopted.

**REPORT AUTHORISATIONS**

Report of: Kerry Hunt, Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development  
 Authorised by: Jenny Thompson, Director Community Services - Creative and Innovative City (Acting)

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Draft City of Wollongong Flag Policy

**BACKGROUND**

Wollongong City Council has its own official flag which was adopted in March 1982.

Council’s Flag Protocol is as prescribed by the Australian Government. The flag is flown at Council’s Administration Building, is available for purchase from Wollongong City Council and can be flown on appropriate flagpoles within the city.

This draft Council policy has been updated to acknowledge the desire of Council to fly community flags outside the Council Chamber on occasion and that in these instances the community flag would take the place of the City of Wollongong Flag.

**PROPOSAL**

The revised City of Wollongong Flag Council Policy be adopted by Council.

**CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION**

The policy has been checked against the Australian Government Flag Protocol.

**PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT**

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2028 goal “4. We are a connected and engaged community”. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan	Delivery Program 2018-2021	Operational Plan 2018-19
Strategy	3 Year Action	Operational Plan Actions
4.2 Our residents have an increased sense of community.	4.2.3 Facilitate programs and events that promote civic pride	Deliver civic activities which recognise and celebrate the city’s people

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed amendments provide greater clarity on the flying of community flags and the hierarchy of the City of Wollongong and other official flags.



ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: [TO BE COMPLETED BY CORP SUPPORT]

## BACKGROUND

The City of Wollongong adopted its own official flag in March 1982 as a result of a citywide competition. The flag represents the City of Wollongong, located between the ocean and the escarpment. The blue in the top section represents the sky and in the lower section the water in which the constellation of Orion is reflected. The gold stripe depicts the ocean wave pattern on its lower edge and the hills silhouetted against the sky on its upper edge. The Belt of Orion was incorporated to symbolise the submarine HMAS Orion – whose crew were awarded the Freedom of the City in the early 1980's - the Orion constellation has been used as a navigational aid by ships since the early days and is easily seen in the night sky over Wollongong.

The Wollongong City Crest located on the flag incorporates some features of the Coat of Arms of New South Wales and has been adapted to feature the stars of the Southern Cross placed on a red cross.

## OBJECTIVE

The main objectives of this policy are to provide guidelines for the availability and protocol for the Wollongong City Flag.

## POLICY STATEMENT

This policy aims to outline the history of the City of Wollongong flag and what it represents.

The policy provides a guide as to how the City of Wollongong flag should be flown and its availability to the community.

## POLICY REVIEW AND VARIATION

- 1 Council is to have opportunity to review and adopt, at least once during its Term, each Council policy.
- 2 A resolution of Council is required to adopt any variations to this policy, with the exception of minor administrative changes, such as updates to legislative references, which may be endorsed by the Executive Management Committee (EMC). Endorsement of administrative changes made to this policy by EMC does not alter the requirement for it to be reviewed and adopted by each Term of Council.

## CITY OF WOLLONGONG FLAG

## COUNCIL POLICY

### STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES

#### **Flying the Flag of the City of Wollongong**

The City of Wollongong flag is flown at all times at Council's Administration Building, in association with the Australian, New South Wales and Aboriginal flags.

Council's flag protocol is as prescribed by the Australian Government and as a result there may be an occasion where the City of Wollongong flag may not be flown. This is due to the precedence or hierarchy of other national or state flag protocol requirements

[There may also be an occasion that a resolution of council requires that a particular community flag to be flown, on such occasions this would take the place of the City of Wollongong Flag. In this instance the City of Wollongong flag would not be flown.](#)

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When appropriate the City of Wollongong flag, (and all other flags) is lowered to half-mast when the Australian Flag is required to be lowered as directed by the Australian Government.

These flags can also be lowered to half-mast at the discretion of the General Manager for local events, mourning or respect.

The City of Wollongong flag is also flown at civic functions and events as determined by Council.

The City of Wollongong flag should always be used in a dignified manner and reproduced completely and accurately. It should not be defaced by overprinting with words or illustrations.

#### **Availability of the City of Wollongong Flag**

Organisations within the City celebrating 100 years of service to the community may be presented with a Wollongong flag as suitable recognition.

The flag is available for purchase from Wollongong City Council and may be flown with dignity on appropriate flagpoles within the city.

CITY OF WOLLONGONG FLAG

COUNCIL POLICY

SUMMARY SHEET	
Responsible Division	Community Cultural and Economic Development
Date adopted by Council	[To be inserted by Corporate Governance]
Date of previous adoptions	23 June 2014, July 2009, November 1984
Date of next review	[List date - Not more than 4 years from adoption]
Legislative or other requirement for review <b>DELETE THIS WHOLE ROW IF NOT APPLICABLE</b>	[List review timeframe and Act, policy or review requirement]
Responsible Manager	[Position title only - Line Manager or above]
Authorised by	[Manager/Director's title only]

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