

Eurobodalla Youth Committee GUIDELINES

NAME

The name of the Youth Committee shall be the Eurobodalla Youth Committee.

OBJECTIVES

Eurobodalla Shire Council established a Youth Committee in July 2003 to provide an opportunity for young people in the shire to:

1. plan youth activities for the year involving entertainment and recreation opportunities for young people,
2. provide a communication link for other matters between council and young people,
3. express their views on, and contribute to the development of the local community,
4. conduct a survey of young people as required to ensure a broad section of young people are providing feedback to Council on a range of issues,
5. contribute to the development of strategies that will promote a positive image of young people to the community,
6. Youth Committee members are encouraged to represent the Youth Committee at relevant council meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Youth Committee will be open to young people aged between 12 and 24 years.

Up to a total of 27 members will be selected annually, comprising 25 students from local high schools, and the option for young people who have recently left school who wish to continue on with the committee to apply for selection. Several school leavers may be elected however only 2 may attend a meeting at any one time. The first 2 to accept the invitation will attend.

A maximum of 5 students may be elected from each local high school, however only a maximum of 4 students can attend at any meeting. The schools are:

- ▶ Batemans Bay High school
- ▶ Carroll College
- ▶ St Peters Anglican College
- ▶ Moruya High school
- ▶ Narooma High school

Membership of the committee will end when the member is no longer able to attend.

It is recommended that schools select representatives from a variety of ages between 12 and 24 years and encourage representation from Aboriginal people and people with a disability.

Not all representatives from each school would have to attend every meeting.

Exceptions to the above will be made where a young person aged 24 years and under has left school to enter the workforce, and has expressed an interest in being a member of the committee. Their application will be considered by the Youth Committee and Coordinator Community Development and Youth.

It is desirable that there is a reasonable gender balance on the committee

All new committee members to be given a copy of the Eurobodalla Youth Committee Guidelines and provide current contact details.

ELECTIONS

Members of the Youth Committee will be elected in the following manner:

1. For those seeking membership from local high schools, selection will come from within the school.
2. For those legally leaving school (for work or having completed HSC) who wish to remain on the committee must seek endorsement from the committee.

MEETINGS

- ▶ The Youth Committee will meet generally on a monthly basis and may convene other meetings as required.
- ▶ A quorum will comprise 6 members of the Youth Committee.
- ▶ The Youth Committee meetings will be Chaired by a member of the Youth Committee and co-chaired by the Youth Development Officer. The role of Chair will be rotated each monthly meeting.

- ▶ Notes of the meeting will be taken and typed up by a Council employee.
- ▶ Councillors of the Eurobodalla Shire Council and other interested people may attend as observers upon invitation or request but are not able to vote on motions. The Youth Committee may also call on other people to attend the meetings as required. All requests and invitations will come through the Youth Development Officer.
- ▶ Apologies are to be submitted at least 1 week prior to the scheduled meeting date to the Youth Development Officer.
- ▶ Attendance rate – members who fail to attend 3 consecutive meetings will automatically forfeit their membership.

ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Youth Committee will be determined by its members and guided by council's Community and Social Development Division and Youth Development Officer.

It is anticipated that the Youth Committee will undertake a number of activities including:

- ▶ ideas for Youth Week activities
- ▶ developing other initiatives including youth events
- ▶ advocating on issues of concern to local young people
- ▶ contributing to the development of strategies that promote positive images of young people in the community
- ▶ consulting with their peers on relevant issues as raised during meetings and providing feedback to the committee and council as requested
- ▶ providing representatives the opportunity to attend the Southern Regional Youth Council Meetings (eg interagency in Bega), Council Australia Day Awards (youth of the year awards) and other relevant state conferences.
- ▶ Attend major youth events when appropriate

SUPPORT SERVICES

Council will assist the Youth Committee by providing the following services:

- ▶ a meeting venue and refreshments
- ▶ secretarial support

- ▶ resources to enable the committee to function effectively
- ▶ chairperson – rotation of responsibility with members.
- ▶ All youth committee members to be invited to the Eurobodalla Youth Committee closed Facebook page.

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

- ▶ The committee will have access to certain equipment and support through the authorisation of the Coordinator Community Development and Youth and /or the Youth Development Officer.

FUNDING

- ▶ Operational funding for the committee is provided by Eurobodalla Shire Council. Some funds are available for the cost of activities that the committee would like to hold. These funds come from within the Youth Services budget.
- ▶ The committee can raise funds through external funding projects.

INSURANCES

The members of the Youth Committee as determined by the Eurobodalla Shire Council are covered by council's insurances while they are on legitimate Youth Committee business.

MEDIA

- ▶ All draft media releases are to be reviewed and approved by Youth Development Officer prior to publishing.
- ▶ All committee members are to provide a written consent for the purpose of publishing images in the media.

CHANGES TO THE GUIDELINES

These guidelines will be reviewed annually.

Revisions:

At the meeting of 21 October 2005, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.

At the meeting of 27 July 2006, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.

At the meeting of 21 June 2007, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.

At the meeting of 19 June 2008, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.

At the meeting of 11 June 2009, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.

At the meeting of 20 June 2011, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.

At the meeting of 21 June 2012, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.
At the meeting of 24 July 2013, changes were taken in as a result of the annual review.
At meeting of 24th February 2016, changes were taken as a result of the annual review.