

BATHURST REGIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL 2023/2024 POSITION DESCRIPTION

Mission Statement

The Bathurst Regional Youth Council empowers young people to represent the voice of youth in the Bathurst region and to develop their skills to build engaged citizens and progressive leadership. The Bathurst Regional Youth Council strives to promote a positive community environment.

Purpose

The Bathurst Regional Youth Council's role is to represent the voice of young people who live, work and study in the Bathurst Local Government Area.

Aims and Objectives

Bathurst Regional Youth Council aims and objectives are to:

- Inform, support and increase connection between young people in the Bathurst region.
- Provide a forum for young people to meet regularly to express their views on current and emerging issues affecting youth in the Bathurst LGA.
- Encourage Youth Councillors to be peer leaders in their communities.
- Represent and promote a youth voice to Council in a structured and formal way for future planning decisions.
- Offer young people the opportunity to actively participate in the Local Government planning process in relation to Council issues, strategies and plans.
- Establish connections between the Bathurst Regional Councillors, and the Bathurst Regional Youth Councillors.
- Provide a recognised link between young people, Bathurst Regional Council and the general community.
- Extend the leadership potential, advocacy, teamwork, communication, governance, administration and problem-solving skills of the Youth Councillors through hands on learning and experience.
- Provide opportunities for young people to build and expand their skills in public speaking, project management, and stakeholder relationships.
- Have young people influence youth-focussed and driven programs and projects delivered in the local community.
- Build a sense of civic pride about young people in the community.
- Represent the young people of the Bathurst region at local, State and National youth forums where appropriate
- Work alongside community organisations to assist with their initiatives and provide an advisory group for organisations wishing to develop programs and activities for young people

Responsibilities

Bathurst Regional Youth Councillors are responsible for:

- Preparing for, attending and participating in Bathurst Regional Youth Council Meetings
- Actively participating in discussions and decisions that take place at Bathurst Regional Youth Council meetings.
- Advising Council of effective ways to engage and communicate with young people.
- Helping to inform decisions and help guide future planning opportunities for the community.
- Representing young people at meetings, activities, events, functions, celebrations, and other youth forums as requested by Bathurst Regional Council.
- Identifying and initiating opportunities for participation and involvement of young people in community activities
- Contributing to the delivery of a youth focused and driven initiative during their term in office.
- Providing timely feedback on documents provided for review.
- Treating other Youth Councillors with respect, take turns at speaking and listening, respect different views, and work towards developing good working relationships
- Responding promptly to communication from Council's Community Development Team regarding Youth Council matters.
- Advising Council's Community Development Team if unable to attend a Youth Council meeting or activity.
- Abiding by the Youth Council's Code of Conduct and all other relevant Council policies.
- Acting within the guidelines of the Youth Council as outlined in the Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Council's Child Safe Code of Conduct.

Key Skills and Qualities

Youth Councillors are in general expected to:

- Have the capacity to consult and represent a wide range of views.
- Have a keen interest in the needs and opportunities for youth in the Bathurst region.
- Demonstrate good communication skills.
- Have a strong network in the community, which enables you to bring other people's perspectives to the group, take information out to the community for discussion, identify opportunities for wider community engagement.
- Have the ability to work with other people and in a team.
- Be able to attend and participate in monthly meetings.
- Obtain a Working with Children Check prior to commencing (if over 18 years of age).

Selection Criteria

Youth Councillors must:

- Be aged between 12 and 24 years.
- Have parental / guardian consent if under 18 years old to participate in the Bathurst Regional Youth Council.
- Reside in the Bathurst LGA.
- Be available to attend monthly meetings (Monday 4:30pm – 6:00pm), as well as have time to work on projects as required.

- Be available to participate in various focus groups, forums and youth focused activities.
- Be a good communicator and willing to actively participate.
- Be comfortable working in a small team of young people.
- Be prepared to commit to a minimum term of one year.