



NORTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL

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Route

Welcome to the Northern Midlands, one of the largest and most diverse municipalities in Tasmania



Picture: Fiona Carter

New citizens, new beginnings

FOR many people, becoming an Australian citizen is the culmination of years of hard work, commitment and hope. In the Northern Midlands, it is also the beginning of a new chapter as part of a welcoming and connected community.

Throughout the year, the Northern Midlands Council proudly hosts Australian Citizenship Ceremonies at the Council Chambers in Longford, providing an opportunity for residents from around the world to formally become Australian citizens and celebrate this important milestone with family and friends.

Recent ceremonies have also formed part of the municipality's Australia Day celebrations, allowing the broader community to share in the occasion and officially welcome its newest Australians.

Presided over by Mayor Mary Knowles OAM, the ceremonies begin with a Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country before conferees, their families and invited guests gather to hear about the significance of Australian citizenship and the responsibilities and privileges it brings. The ceremony culminates in each conferee making the Australian Citizenship Pledge, the final step in becoming an Australian citizen under the Australian Citizenship Act 2007. They are then presented with their citizenship certificates and welcomed as new members of the Australian community.

While the ceremony itself is formal, it is often an emotional and joyful occasion. Family members and friends gather



FLYING A NEW FLAG: Australia's newest citizens stand proud at the Citizenship Ceremony hosted by the Northern Midlands Council recently.

Colombia, Hong Kong SAR of the People's Republic of China, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Canada, the Philippines, India, South Africa, Bangladesh and the United States. Each new citizen brings their own unique experiences, culture and perspective, helping to strengthen the diverse and welcoming community we are proud to call home.

Mayor Mary Knowles said citizenship ceremonies were among the most meaningful events undertaken by local government.

"Welcoming new citizens is one of the greatest privileges we have as a Council. These ceremonies celebrate not only

a commitment to Australia, but also a commitment to our local communities.

"Our newest citizens enrich the Northern Midlands through their experiences, skills, culture and contributions, helping to make our region an even better place to live, work and raise a family."

Whether they are establishing a business, joining a community group, volunteering, contributing to local industry or raising the next generation, new citizens play an important role in shaping the future of the Northern Midlands.

Their stories reflect the diversity, resilience and community spirit that continue to strengthen the municipality.

COUNCIL SNAPSHOT

Northern Midlands councillors met on June 29 to discuss a range of issues. Here's a snapshot.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY SAFETY

Council resolved to advocate for a stronger police presence in Campbell Town, including consideration of a permanent police presence. Tasmania Police will be invited to meet with councillors to discuss safety concerns and policing services across the region.

EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF CRESSY POOL

Councillors supported further investigation into the potential enclosure of the Cressy Swimming Pool. A feasibility assessment will now be undertaken to examine costs, operational requirements, challenges and possible funding opportunities before a future report is presented to Council.

PROGRESSING THE ROSS DARK SKY VISION

Council continued its support for the goal of Ross becoming an accredited Dark Sky Community by endorsing the next stage of lighting improvements. This includes progressing a formal agreement with TasNetworks and upgrading Council-owned lighting to help protect the town's remarkable night skies.

PRESERVING LOCAL CHARACTER, HERITAGE

As part of its planning responsibilities, Council endorsed planning amendments to support a Ross Dark Sky Specific Area Plan and establish a Longford Entrance Local Historic Landscape Precinct. These initiatives will help protect the unique heritage, character and landscape values that make these places special.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS MOVING FORWARD

Council also supported further investigation of funding opportunities for future upgrades to Pioneer Park and appointed a councillor representative to the Perth Community Hub Management Committee.

COMMUNITY VOICES HEARD

Public Question Time provided an opportunity for residents to raise local matters, including a proposal for a replacement Blue Tree installation in Longford and a request to investigate rezoning land at 69 Cromwell Street, Perth. Council agreed these matters would be investigated further and reported back at a future meeting.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION

Councillors considered the proposed 2026-27 Annual Plan and Budget; however, the adoption motion was not carried. Council resolved for the budget to be revised to reflect a 4 per cent rate increase and brought back to the next Council meeting for further consideration.

WEBSITE

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OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday
8.45am-4.30pm