

NORTHERN MIDLANDS: A YEAR OF PROGRESS, COMMUNITY, AND CELEBRATION

Reflecting on key achievements, new projects, and festive wishes for the community.

DECEMBER 2025 COUNCIL UPDATE

SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS FROM MEETINGS HELD 15 DEC 2025

Annual General Meeting (AGM) Highlights

- Confirmation of Minutes: The minutes from the 2024 AGM were confirmed as a true record.
- Annual Report: Council resolved to accept the 2024/2025 Annual Report.
- Defamation Proceedings Costs: Council officers will prepare a report on options to recover council costs from defamation proceedings.
- Perth Police Station Community Hub: Council officers will prepare a report on the potential to secure the Old Perth Police Station and Residence for a community hub, including a tourist centre, museums, meeting spaces, and a community garden for Perth.

Ordinary Council Meeting Highlights

- Confirmation of Minutes: The minutes from the November 2025 Ordinary Meeting were confirmed.
- Artificial Intelligence in Local Government: Council requested a report on current AI use, opportunities for NMC, and recommendations for improving council effectiveness through AI.
- Determination Report: Council accepted the Determination Report under Section 28ZJ of the Local Government Act 1993.
- Development Services: Monthly report was noted.
- Single Start-Up Permit Submission: Council endorsed the submission to the Department of State Growth.
- Development Approval: Approved application PLN-25-0165 for a single dwelling at 2A Bridge Street, Ross, subject to conditions.
- Fees Schedule Review: Amendments to the 2025-2026 Fees and Charges were endorsed, including new and revised fees for planning and engineering services, effective from 1 March 2026.
- Policy Update: The Overhanging Trees Policy was updated and renamed to the Overhanging Trees, Vegetation and Hedges Policy.
- Cressy Childcare / Bartholomew Park Masterplan: Council accepted the draft masterplan in principle, approved public consultation, and requested a staged implementation plan and pursuit of external funding.
- Policy Reviews: Endorsed the reviewed Risk Management Policy & Framework and Code of Tendering and Procurement.
- Campbell Town EV Charging: Required Evie Networks to conduct public consultation and deferred works for six months to minimize disruption during Main Street works.
- Workforce Plan 2025-2029: Council received the review and determined to release the decision only to the public, with a further report scheduled for December 2026.

This snapshot reflects the Council's ongoing commitment to transparent governance, strategic infrastructure investment, and community-driven priorities across the Northern Midlands.

RIGHT: Recipients of Citizen of the Year 2025 Aubrey Morgan and Kathy Henry



NORTHERN MIDLANDS TO CELEBRATE COMMUNITY SPIRIT AT AUS DAY AWARDS



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

The Northern Midlands community is invited to come together for a day of celebration, recognition, and fun at the annual Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony, held at the Campbell Town Recreation Ground on Monday, 26 January 2026.

Hosted by the Northern Midlands Council, this year's event—under the theme "Heart of the Midlands: Celebrating Community, Culture & Country"—will shine a spotlight on the region's unsung heroes, new citizens, and the vibrant spirit that makes the Northern Midlands such a wonderful place to live. Join us for a free BBQ and a Sports Carnival – Splash, Sprint and Celebrate!

Honouring Local Champions

Council will present three prestigious honours:

Citizen of the Year 2026, Young Citizen of the Year 2026 and Community Event of the Year 2026. In addition, the Council will present its Volunteer Recognition Awards, acknowledging the dedication of individuals who have made a significant, unpaid contribution to a community group or organisation. Volunteer recognition was formally included in the Australia Day celebrations in 2016 and has since become a highlight of the day.

Welcoming New Australians

The official ceremony will commence at 10:00 AM with an Acknowledgement of Country and a welcome from Mayor Mary Knowles OAM. A moving Citizenship Ceremony will follow, where conferees will take the pledge and receive their certificates, marking the beginning of their journey as Australian citizens.

Special Guests and Community Activities

Mr John Zeckendorf is the 2026 Australia Day Ambassador for Northern Midlands Council and a Tasmanian entrepreneur. The first Tasmanian to summit Everest and complete the Seven Summits, he champions community development and youth leadership. John will deliver a keynote address, sharing reflections on volunteering and the power of community.

The event will also feature the official opening of the "Choose the Scenic Route" Photography Exhibition, showcasing the creativity and pride of local residents.

After the formalities, families are invited to enjoy a classic Aussie BBQ, and a sports carnival with games and activities for all ages. The celebrations will run from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, with the official program concluding at midday and community festivities continuing into the afternoon.



ABOVE: Mr John Zeckendorf
(photo courtesy Department of Premier and Cabinet)

A Day for Everyone

Mayor Knowles encourages all residents to join the festivities: "Australia Day is a time to honour those who make our region a better place, welcome new citizens, and celebrate the spirit of community that defines the Northern Midlands. We invite everyone to join us for a day of recognition, reflection, and fun."

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Monday, 26 January 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (official ceremony 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

Location: Campbell Town Recreation Ground, 57 High Street, Campbell Town



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OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday

8:45am - 4:30pm