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		Responsible Officer/s:	Director Corporate Services
		Classification:	Council
		Issued:	4 June 2018
		Next Review:	November 2028

## 1. Purpose

This policy outlines a consistent approach to the flying of flags in Council's care and control within relevant principles and operational guidelines.

## 2. Scope

The District Council of Grant (**"the Council"**) flies flags in response to Council's governance responsibilities. Flags that may be flown in response to Council's governance responsibilities include:

- A recognised national flag (including subsequent proclamations)
- The South Australian State Flag
- Council's corporate image and brand
- Flags approved by specific Council resolution that in the opinion of Council should be displayed on certain occasions.

## 3. Policy

### 3.1. Permanent Flags

The Council will fly permanent flags at the following locations (during business hours only):

#### 3.1.1. Principal Office – Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier (refer diagram below)


Pole 1 – Front (western pole) – Australian National Flag

Pole 2 – Front (eastern pole) – South Australian State Flag

Pole 3 – Back (western pole) – Aboriginal Flag

Pole 4 – Back (eastern pole) – District Council of Grant Flag



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3.1.2. Port MacDonnell Community Complex (refer diagram below)

Pole 1 – Australian flag

Pole 2 – Aboriginal flag



### 3.2. Days of Commemoration


The Council will fly the Australian National Flag and/or other flags as appropriate on the following days of commemoration (during business hours only) at the Principal Office, Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier:

- 26 January – Australia Day
- 17 May – International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia & Transphobia

In recognition of the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia & Transphobia, which is observed on 17 May annually, both the Australian National flag and the Rainbow flag will be flown. Where there is only one flagpole available, the Rainbow flag will not replace the Australian National flag. Where there are two flagpoles, the Rainbow flag will not replace the Australian National flag or the Aboriginal flag.

- 27 May to 3 June – National Reconciliation Week

*In recognition of 27 May as the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum which successfully removed from the Constitution clauses that discriminated*

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*against Indigenous Australians and 3 June as the anniversary of the High Court decision in the Eddie Mabo land rights case of 1992.*

Both the Australian National flag and the Aboriginal flag will be flown. Where there is only one flagpole available, the Aboriginal flag will not replace the Australian National flag.

The Torres Strait Islander Flag will replace the District Council of Grant Flag and fly at the Principal Office for National Reconciliation Week.

- 1 November to 30 November – Pridevember

In support of the LGBTIQ+ community, Council will recognise “Pridevember” during the month of November each year. This also incorporates annual Feast Festival activities.

Both the Australian National flag and the Rainbow flag will be flown. Where there is only one flagpole available, the Rainbow flag will not replace the Australian National flag. Where there are two flagpoles, the Rainbow flag will not replace the Australian National flag or the Aboriginal flag.

- NAIDOC Week (to be nominated on an annual basis)

*NAIDOC Week is held every year to celebrate and promote a greater understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture.*

Both the Australian National flag and the Aboriginal flag will be flown. Where there is only one flagpole available, the Aboriginal flag will not replace the Australian National flag.

The Torres Strait Islander Flag will replace the District Council of Grant Flag and fly at the Principal Office for NAIDOC Week.

### **3.3. Flags in the Council Chamber**


The Council will display flags in the Council Chamber at Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier:

- Australian National Flag
- South Australian State Flag
- Aboriginal Flag
- Torres Strait Islander Flag
- District Council of Grant Flag

The Council may elect to replace the District Council of Grant Flag with an alternative flag as appropriate on days of commemoration.

### **3.4. Flags Flown at Half-Mast**

Flags are flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning. The Council will fly flags at half-mast when directed to do so by the Australian Government or the South Australian State Government, or on the death of a prominent local citizen at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, and on (during business hours only):

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- 11 November – Remembrance Day

*Flags are flown at the peak from 8am, at half-mast from 10.30am to 11.02am, and at the peak from 11.02am until the usual time for closure of business.*

### 3.5. Flags not Flown

Flags will not be flown outside of usual business hours, on weekends, public holidays, or at any other time when Council's respective offices are closed.

## 4. Responsibilities

Council's Director of Corporate Services is responsible for ensuring the requirements of this Policy are met.

## 5. References / Other Documents

### 5.1. Legislation

*Flags Act 1953*

### 5.2. Other

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet excerpt from the booklet *Australian Flags* – Part 2: The protocols for the appropriate use and the flying of the flag

## 6. Review

This Policy shall be reviewed by the District Council of Grant at a minimum, once within every four (4) year Council term (or on significant change to legislation or other matters which could affect this policy).

Action	Date	Minute Reference
Adopted by Council	5 September 2016	16115.3
Amended	4 December 2017	17153.1.3
Amended	4 June 2018	18081.4.1
Minor formatting amendments	4 May 2020	Governance Officer
Amended	6 September 2021	21139.1.2
Amended	18 July 2022	22195.2
Amended	21 August 2023	23177