

 <p>Mackay REGIONAL COUNCIL</p>	COUNCIL POLICY	
	SunSmart - Council / Community Events	
	POLICY NO	074
	DEPARTMENT	COMMUNITY & CLIENT SERVICES
	PROGRAM	Community Lifestyle
ENDORSED BY COUNCIL ORD-2020-169		

1.0 Scope

This policy covers all Council events. Copies of the policy should also be made available to community organisations or private groups who are arranging events with Council sponsorship / assistance or at a Mackay Regional Council (MRC) facility with a request that they comply with the policy.

2.0 Purpose

To provide direction for MRC staff around the expectations of Council in how sun protection will be managed at Council and community events.

3.0 Reference

- SunSmart Policy Guidelines. Cancer Council Queensland

4.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

Council shall mean the Mayor and Councillors of Mackay Regional Council.

Council Event shall mean any event which Council arranges or has a significant role in organising.

Community Event shall mean any event arranged by a community or private organisation which is held at a Council facility, is sponsored or supported by Council or in which Council staff participate in the organisation of the event.

MRC shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

5.0 Background

MRC provides a range of parks, community facilities and events and has a responsibility to ensure that those facilities and events are utilised by the community in a safe manner.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in Australia, with 80 per cent of all cancers diagnosed in Australia being skin cancer. Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. More than 430,000 Australians are treated a year for skin cancers. Each year there are around 1600 deaths from melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer.

Almost all of these cancers are preventable and Council is determined to ensure that we play our part in ensuring the safety of our community. The major cause of skin cancer is too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.

In a tropical climate such as Mackay's, skin can burn in as little as 15 minutes, so it is important to provide opportunities for residents to protect their skin from UV radiation.

6.0 Policy Statement

Sun Safety and protection is a key part of Council's overall responsibility. Council is determined to ensure that the events that it runs and the facilities it provides allow the community to enjoy recreation activities in a safe and enjoyable manner.

6.1 Council Events

MRC is the largest provider of festivals and events within the Mackay Region.

MRC coordinates events such as the Festival of Arts, Global Grooves Festival. MRC will ensure that all Council run events will take into account sun safety. This will include the following:

- Ensuring that appropriate shade is available at all event venues.
- Wherever possible ensuring that events are not held during the hottest part of the day.
- Ensuring that sunscreen is available for all event staff and volunteers.
- Ensuring that staff and volunteers are provided with appropriate protection such as hats and long sleeve shirts.
- Ensuring that water is available for all staff, volunteers and patrons.
- Promoting to patrons that they bring sunscreen and water for personal use.

6.2 Community Run Events

MRC is also involved in a large range of community or privately run events either as a sponsor or as the owner of the park or facility where the event is held. MRC will assist community and private event organisers in a range of ways to ensure that their events meet the intent of this policy, specifically MRC will:

- Make this policy available to all event organisers where the event is either held in an MRC facility or where an MRC staff member is involved in its organisation.
- Encourage event organisers to provide adequate shade and facilities for their patrons.
- Provide advice to event organisers to assist them in their event complying with this policy.
- Advise prospective hirers of appropriate MRC facilities where events can be held which provide access to appropriate shade and cover for their patrons.

7.0 Review

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
2	Review of Policy	Amendments to Policy	Endorsed	23/11/2016
3	Review	Amendments to Policy	Endorsed	08/07/2020