

# CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY DRESS CODE POLICY

Policy Number C80  
Ordinary Council Meeting Date 25 March 2020  
Next Review Date March 2024

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## 1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The objective of the *Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code Policy* (the Policy) is to meet the requirement of the Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code, under the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007*, which states that every local council should have a Dress Code for its citizenship ceremonies.

## 2. POLICY SCOPE

This Policy applies to all attendees of South Gippsland Shire Council citizenship ceremonies.

## 3. POLICY STATEMENT – CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY DRESS CODE

### 3.1 Background

The revised Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Dress Code (Citizenship Ceremony Code) was announced by the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, The Honourable David Coleman MP, on 20 September 2019.

The Citizenship Ceremony Code follows the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007* and sets out the legal and other requirements for conducting citizenship ceremonies as well as the roles and responsibilities for those involved in citizenship ceremonies.

One of the new requirements of the revised Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code is for councils to adopt a dress code:

On page 25 of the Citizenship Ceremony Code it says:

*“The attire of attendees at Citizenship Ceremonies should reflect the significance of the occasion.*

*A Dress Code is to be set by individual councils.*

*Councils must provide a current copy of their Dress Code to the Department of Home Affairs.”*

### 3.2 Dress Code Requirements

In order to reflect the significance of becoming an Australian citizen at a South Gippsland Shire Council citizenship ceremony, attendees should wear either formal

or business attire or smart casual attire. Traditional, national or cultural dress is welcomed to be worn.

However, the following **should not** be worn at citizenship ceremonies:

- Beach wear including swimwear of any kind;
- Rubber thongs;
- Slippers;
- Singlets or tank tops;
- Nightwear;
- Shirts and jackets containing offensive motifs;
- Sports or training apparel; and
- Overly torn clothing items.

Appropriate footwear must be worn by all attendees. Attending a citizenship ceremony with bare feet is not acceptable.

Attendees in breach of the South Gippsland Shire Council Citizenship Ceremony Dress Code will be requested to remove themselves from the venue until the ceremony concludes.

#### 4. RISK ASSESSMENT

This Policy is a requirement of the Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code.

#### 5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

This Policy will be implemented by the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer and Citizenship Ceremony Officer.

POLICY OWNERSHIP			
Directorate		Chief Executive Office	
DEFINITIONS			
Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code (the Code)		Follows the Australian Citizenship Act 2007 and sets out the legal and other requirements for conducting citizenship ceremonies as well as the roles and responsibilities for those involved in citizenship ceremonies. The Code provides guidance to organisations to help plan and conduct citizenship ceremonies.	
Citizenship ceremony		Is the final step in the acquisition of Australian citizenship. For most people this means making the pledge of commitment at an Australian citizenship ceremony. At the citizenship ceremony, conferees pledge that they share Australia’s democratic beliefs and respect the rights and liberties of the people of Australia.	
SUPPORTING INFORMATION			
Legislative Provisions		Australian Citizenship Act 2007	
External Supporting Documents		Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code	
File Location		D2343020	
REVISION HISTORY			
Version	Approved	Approval Date	Sections Modified
1.0	Ordinary Council Meeting	25 March 2020	New Policy