

Sister City Relationships

Policy Objective

1. To promote the Shire of Broome and, where appropriate, assist in fostering economic development, tourism and trade relations.
2. To broaden the range of existing cultural, sporting, educational and youth exchange opportunities.
3. To seek a wider understanding of other nations, their traditions, customs and cultures.

Policy Scope

This policy applies to the current Sister City Relationship with the town of Taiji, Wakayama Prefecture, Japan, and to the consideration of any future Sister City or Global Friendship relationships.

Policy Statement

The Council desires to maintain a small number of active sister city relationships, based upon benefits which can accrue, including trade, tourism, historical, cultural, educational and sporting activities.

The Council considers that the abovementioned objectives can be achieved by:

1. Educational, historical, cultural, trade, tourism and sporting exchanges;
2. Official visits.

Accordingly, the Council's role will be:

1. To encourage exchanges and to facilitate and assist visits (such as providing letters of introduction to the Sister City);
2. To arrange an exchange of greetings on the occasion of visits from Sister Cities;
3. To facilitate exchange of educational, historical, cultural, tourism and promotional material;
4. To host a Civic reception on each occasion that a delegation from a Sister City visits Broome, along with other appropriate hospitality including tours and welcomes.

5. To provide financial and in-kind support to St Mary's College for an annual student exchange with Taiji as outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding;
6. For the Shire of Broome to retain membership of the Sisters Cities Australia organisation.

Consideration of Future Relationships

In establishing a new Sister City relationship, Council is to first establish a Friendship Agreement.

The agreement is to be reviewed comprehensively by the Council after a period of five years, or earlier if appropriate, to determine if a Sister City relationship would be beneficial to the Shire.

To be considered for a Sister City Relationship, the friendship is to have demonstrated considerable activity in the areas of trade, tourism, education, historical, cultural and sporting exchanges.

Travel

Travel for official Sister City visits is to be provided by appropriate provision being made in the adopted budget.

A delegation to Taiji should be considered every two years comprising a maximum of three Councillors. The timing and composition of the delegation will require the approval of Council.

Performance Measures

After returning from an official Sister City visit, the delegation is to prepare a report and present to Council within three months.

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