Media Release

12 October 2023

Have your say by nominating for 2024 Gladstone Region Youth Council

Gladstone Regional Council is calling on young people aged 15 to 24 who are willing to step up for their community and be part of the 2024 Gladstone Region Youth Council.

Gladstone Region Youth Council act as a formal advisory committee to Council and use their voice to raise matters and promote initiatives and activities that are important to young people in our region.

Nominations are open until Monday, 4 December 2023 with a nomination form available to download from Council's website.

Gladstone Region Deputy Mayor Kahn Goodluck said members are selected based on their diverse strengths, perspectives, experiences and willingness to bring about positive change.

"Young people are often left out of important conversations and decision making that directly affects them and Council is committed to partnering with our young people to ensure they are fairly represented in our community," Councillor Goodluck said.

"Whether you're still in school, attending university, working or undertaking an apprenticeship, we would love to hear from you.

"I was 27 when first elected as a Councillor in 2016 and Mayor Matt Burnett was 25 when first elected as a Councillor in 2000, so there should be no doubt that young people can be an influence or have their voices heard when it comes to local government."

Cr Goodluck said Youth Council members are required to serve an initial one-year term and can seek re-appointment for a subsequent term, with meetings to begin from February 2024.

"This is the perfect opportunity for young people to provide input into the governance of our region and participate in events and initiatives such as Festival of Summer and Youth Week activities, the Mayor's Youth Breakfast, National Volunteers Week, Seniors Week, Avenue to Awareness and more," he said.

Membership criteria

- Applicants must be aged 15-24 years old, including those that are turning 15 within the first six months of the Youth Council term
- Applicants must live in the Gladstone Region
- Applications must be completed by the person applying for the Youth Council position
- Applicants can choose to submit the written application in full or can include a video application containing their response to the questions that display a video icon
- Applications must include a personal reference (written or video files are welcome)
- Applicants living in remote areas are encouraged to apply as options to support participation in meetings and other activities is available.

Visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/youth-council</u> for more information.

ENDS

