

## Commitment to Child Safety Statement

Tamworth Regional Council is committed to creating and maintaining an environment that promotes the care, protection and safety of children. The four pillars outlined below underpin how we achieve this. Council recognises the important role children play in creating positive, connected communities which are vital for our future. Further information relating to Council's approach to Child Safety can be found in the [Child Safe](#) policy.

### Four Pillars

#### Respect

Tamworth Regional Council supports an environment for children and young people to have safe and happy experiences in our community. Council encourages active participation of children by involving them in decision making, particularly in matters that directly affect them. Council supports and respects children of all ages, cultures, religions, education levels, children of diverse sexualities and genders and children with disabilities. Council is committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with disabilities.

#### Protect

The prevention and reporting of abuse is supported and encouraged and all allegations are treated seriously in accordance with Council's policies and procedures. Council has legal obligations to contact the relevant authority when we are concerned for a child's safety or if there is an allegation against one of our workers. Through a risk-based approach, Council will identify, mitigate, manage or reduce the risks to children that may be associated with its functions and programs.

#### Culture

Tamworth Regional Council has zero tolerance of child exploitation and abuse in our organisation. Council works to prevent abuse associated with its functions and programs through a robust recruitment strategy and ongoing training of its workers. Council's commitment to a child safe culture is embedded in the leadership, governance and culture of the organisation and across all aspects of its business and practices.

#### Compassion

Tamworth Regional Council is committed to safeguarding children's sense of wellbeing and rights to reach their full potential in life.