



*Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley*  
**Council Policy**  
**MC16**

<b>POLICY NO:</b>	<b>MC16</b>
<b>DIVISION:</b>	<b>Members of Council</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Freeman of the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>ENABLING LEGISLATION:</b>	<b>Local Government Act 1995</b>

**OBJECTIVE**

To enable Council to honour exceptional individuals who have served the community in an outstanding and meritorious manner that stands above the service and contribution of most other persons in provision of benefits to the community and advancing the strategic interests of the East Kimberley.

**POLICY**

***Award Criteria:***

A person may be nominated for the honorary award 'Freeman of the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley' under the following circumstances:

- They will have identifiable and long standing connections with the community in the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley and have made an outstanding, significant and meritorious contribution to the Shire
- Their exceptional service is a matter of public record.
- Their endeavours will have benefited the community of the East Kimberley, Australia and humanity.

***Process of Nomination:***

- Nominations will be considered infrequently or as the need is identified by Council.
- A nomination may be submitted by any person at any time, provided that nomination is in writing and addresses the criteria for the award.
- A nomination must be sponsored by an elected member and supported in writing by at least 3 other elected members.
- A nominee must not be made aware of their nomination.
- Any nominations received will be validated and the findings presented at a meeting of Council behind closed doors, with recommendations to approve/not approve a nominee for the award. The decision will be based on a simple majority vote.
- Acceptance of the award must be determined prior to being conferred.

***Entitlements:***

- Any person who has the honour of Freemanship bestowed may refer to themselves as Freeman of the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
- The Freeman will be presented with a special plaque, name badge and framed certificate at a function to be hosted by Council to acknowledge their Freemanship.
- The Freeman shall be invited to formal civic events and functions held by Council.
- A photograph and plaque of the Freeman is to be displayed in an appropriate place.

***Limitations:***

- In recognition of the significance and standing of Freemanship a maximum of five (5) living persons shall hold title of Freeman of the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley at any time.
- Bestowing of the title Freeman of the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley carries with it no legal rights or privileges.

**Adopted: 16 June 2009**

**Reviewed:**

**Amended:**