



## MEDIA RELEASE

---

12<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### **Morawa Shire President receive King's Birthday honours**

The Governor General of Australia has today appointed Cr Karen Chappel, Shire of Morawa President as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM). This prestigious accolade has been awarded to Cr Chappel for her significant service to local government, and to the town of Morawa.

Cr Chappel was elected as a Shire of Morawa Councillor in 2005 and as the council President in 2009. She has held these positions since, and a number of other significant roles including her current undertakings as the President of the Western Australian Local Government Association and Vice-President of the Australian Local Government Association.

Cr Chappel said her family were strong role models and inspired her to serve in the rural community where she lived and worked.

“My father was a Shire President and from an early age the importance of service to your community was instilled in my family,” she said.

“As a very young girl I used to attend Country Women’s Association meetings with my mother, where I learned the important role women play in rural communities.

“While I am proud of my contribution to the Shire of Morawa and WALGA, I am equally proud of some of the work I have done within organisations such as Desert Blue Connect and Rural Financial Counselling Services WA.

“These organisations are all about making lives better for isolated folk in rural and remote WA and are incredibly important in the social fabric of our towns.

Cr Chappel is currently in Canberra to attend the Australian Local Government National General Assembly where she will continue her work and advocacy for regional development and the betterment of Morawa. She looks forward to returning home and celebrating this accolade with her family and community.



## MEDIA RELEASE

---

-Ends-

Media Enquiries can be directed to [ea@morawa.wa.gov.au](mailto:ea@morawa.wa.gov.au)