

Councillor Les Tyrell
Mayor of Townsville

Les Tyrell was Mayor of the City of Thuringowa since 1991. In 2008, he became the Mayor of the largest city in regional Queensland, which was the result of the amalgamation of Townsville and Thuringowa cities.

His involvement with local government commenced when he was elected as Councillor to the then Thuringowa Shire in 1979. He spent two terms (six years) as Deputy Mayor, between 1982 and 1991.

Les has spent all but 18 months of his life in North Queensland, living in places such as Wangan, Tully, Ingham, Innisfail, Cairns and Townsville/Thuringowa.

Originally from an accounting background, he spent several years in management and sales positions in the timber and hardware industries. He was also self-employed for a period of 12 years, establishing his own financial services consultancy.

In 2003, Les was awarded the Centenary Medal for distinguished service to local government.

Awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia (January 2009) for his outstanding services to local government and to the community of Thuringowa.

He is an Executive Member of the Local Government Association of Queensland and a Director/Trustee of LG Super.

Besides sitting on numerous Council and community committees, Les is currently the Chair of the Breakwater Island Casino Community Benefit Fund and Chair of the Townsville Local Disaster Management Group.

He is Deputy Chair of Townsville Enterprise Limited.

Les is the patron of numerous sporting, charitable and community groups and a past School P & C President. He is a past member of the Queensland Council of School P & C's and President of Kennedy Area Scout Association.

Les has been given Life Member (Senator) of Jaycees and is a recipient of Lions International Community Award/Centenary Medal. He is an Honorary Member of City of Thuringowa Lions Club.

Les is married to Pat and has six children, comprising of five sons and one daughter.