

Community Awards

Policy Objective

To provide an appropriate framework that facilitates the recognition and celebration of significant contributions to the local community and district.

Policy Scope

This Policy applies to community awards issued by the Town but does not apply to any awards issued to staff or teams within the Town's administration.

Policy Statement

In July 2020, Council adopted a new Strategic Community Plan, which defines the Town's vision, aspirations and priorities for the next 10 years. It is the key guiding document that informs all other plans, strategies and policies and the Town's actions and decisions.

The priority areas include "*Strengthening and connecting our community*", "*Leading environmental sustainability*" and "*Building community identity by celebrating culture and heritage*". Whilst the SCP is an intentionally high-level, strategic document, it demonstrates the Town's desire for a connected and engaged community. One of the specific measures to deliver on the above is the provision of community awards that acknowledge and celebrate those that make a genuine contribution to achieving these priorities.

1. Annual Community Awards

1.1 Award Categories

- (a) The Town will issue awards on an annual basis and will invite nominations for awards in the following categories:
 - (i) Community Leadership Award - For groups or individuals that have made a significant contribution to the local community. They will have enhanced community life, have been involved in a significant initiative which has brought about positive change and/or significantly contributed to achieving connections and inclusion within the community
 - (ii) Lifetime Contribution to Volunteering - This award will be presented in honour of a senior individual (65+ years) who has made an exemplary life-long contribution to volunteering and who through their volunteering has contributed to the betterment of the Town of Bassendean community.
 - (iii) Youth Achievement Award - Presented in celebration of an individual aged 12 – 25 years who has made an outstanding voluntary commitment, has been an exceptional role model, or has made significant achievements in the arts, sporting, or academic fields.

- (iv) Best Verge Award – Presented in recognition of an outstanding verge garden (or a collection of verge gardens on the same street) within the district, taking into account edible or native plants, water-wise design, and safe access.
 - (v) “Bassendean means Business” Award - Presented to a business operating within the district that has made a positive community impact, shown significant business agility, provided outstanding customer service or proactively contributed to environmental sustainability in their business practices and/or in the community.
- (b) There is no obligation to issue an award in each category and awards will not be issued in a given category if either (i) no nominations are received or (ii) the nominations received are not considered to warrant the issue of an award.

1.2 Nomination Eligibility and Assessment

- (a) Nominations will only be accepted where they meet the following:
- (i) Individual nominees must be living in or servicing the Town of Bassendean.
 - (ii) Business nominees must be located in the Town of Bassendean.
 - (iii) Community group nominees must be located in or servicing the Town of Bassendean.
 - (iv) Nominees must be in good-standing with the Town of Bassendean.
 - (v) The nominee cannot be a sitting member of Federal, State or Local Government.
 - (vi) The nomination is a third-party nomination (ie. self-nominations are not permitted)
- (b) Nominations will be assessed by a selection panel from the Town of Bassendean or any other means deemed appropriate by the Chief Executive Officer.
- (c) In assessing nominations, awards will only be granted where the nominations have demonstrated strong alignment to the criteria of the relevant award and:
- (i) Significant contribution to the local community and the enhancement of community life
 - (ii) A significant initiative which has brought about positive change and added value to community life and/or
 - (iii) Inspiring qualities as a role model for the community.
- (d) The panel will provide its recommendation to the Council for endorsement before any announcements are made.

1.3 Award Presentation

- (a) The manner in which the awards are presented will be determined on an annual basis, having regard for other civic events and community initiatives.
- (b) Award winners will be presented with a framed certificate and be the subject of media promotion on the Town’s website, Facebook page and hard-copy publication.

2. Annual School Awards

The Town will issue annual awards to students graduating from primary schools within the district. These awards will be in the form of a financial contribution with recipients being nominated by the relevant school.

Document Control box			
Document Responsibilities:			
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer	Owner Business Unit:	Community Planning
Inception Date:	September 2020	Decision Maker:	Council
Review Date:	November 2020 OCM-12/11/20 Amended 24 August 2021 OCM-13/8/21	Repeal and Replace:	N/A
Compliance Requirements:			
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>		