

## **10.4. North Sydney Council's Community Awards 2022**

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**ENDORSED BY:** Rebecca Aukim, Acting Director Community and Library Services

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nil

### **PURPOSE:**

To present to Council a list of recommendations for North Sydney Council's Community Awards 2022.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

North Sydney Council's Community Awards will be held on 1 April 2022. Due to COVID-19 and Council entering caretaker mode leading up to Election Day on 4 December 2021, Awards were postponed from previous years, where they were presented on 26 January. The 2022 awards will be presented by the Mayor, Zoë Baker on 1 April 2022.

This report is confidential in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 for the reason listed below:

(a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The related financial implications are negligible. The associated costs will be covered by the financial year 2021/22 budget.

Funding for the project is appropriate.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**1.THAT** the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 10 2 (a); personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

**2.THAT** this report be treated as confidential and remain confidential until Council determines otherwise.

## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

### 4. Our Social Vitality

4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe

4.2 North Sydney is creative and home to popular events

### 5. Our Civic Leadership

5.3 Community is informed and consulted

## **BACKGROUND**

Council recognises that residents and volunteers who have worked to improve the lives of others and make North Sydney a better place to live should be publicly acknowledged through the North Sydney Council's Community Awards 2022. Four awards are issued for community contributions made in the North Sydney LGA during the previous twelve months. The award categories include:

1. Citizen of the Year
2. Community Group/Event of the Year
3. Environmental Citizen of the Year
4. Young Citizen of the Year

## **CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS**

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

## **DETAIL**

The nomination form was widely distributed across the community via the North Sydney Council website, Stanton Library, noticeboards, Community Centres, local schools, church groups, sporting groups and retirement villages.

The nomination process closed on 30 November 2021 for the Citizen of the Year, Environmental Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year categories.

The award nominations are referred to Council for determination.

Since 1992 North Sydney Council's Community Awards have been organised through the Community and Library Services Division. Calls for nominations have mirrored Australia Day Awards and asks basic information on the nominee's contributions including:

- Degree to which community benefited.
- How the contribution was made e.g. volunteer, special circumstances, outstanding contribution in specialised field.
- Length of time over which the contribution was made.

Additional supporting information may be attached and included in the nomination. When assessing nominations, recommendations are made with reference to these criteria and the knowledge and expertise of Council Officers within other Divisions is also sought. eg. Sustainability, Communications, Governance, etc. Given the evolution of the Awards, and the move to embrace a whole of Council approach, it is an opportune time to review the Awards, and develop a policy with clear criteria which would overcome confusion in nomination eligibility, give greater prominence to the awards and promote collaboration across a range of Council sections and the community. It is recommended that further investigation and research be undertaken, with a view for Council to receive a further report about strengthening the Awards.