

Light Regional Council CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

GUIDELINES

The Light Regional Council Citizen of the Year Award, Young Citizen of the Year Award, Award for Active Citizenship, Community Event of the Year and Community Project of the Year Awards are presented annually to citizens and groups who have made outstanding contributions to the community across five major categories:

Citizen of the Year Award:

Awarded to the most outstanding Citizen within Light Regional Council.

Young Citizen Award:

Awarded to the most outstanding Young Citizen within Light Regional Council.

Award for Active Citizenship:

A person or group delivering outstanding work or for an event or cause, staged in the community during the past year

Community Event of the Year Award:

Awarded to a person or group who has staged the most outstanding community event during the previous year within the Light Regional Council area.

Community Project of the Year Award:

Awarded to a person or group who has completed the most outstanding community project during the previous year within the Light Regional Council area.

The Light Regional Council Citizen of the Year Awards are generally presented to category winners at the Australia Day Breakfast and Citizenship Ceremony held annually on 26th January.

How can I nominate someone?

Nominations Open: Monday 18 September 2023 and close at 5pm on Friday 17 November 2023

Nominations received before 18 September will still be accepted. Nominations received after the closing date will be carried forward to the next nomination period in the following year.

Online: www.citizenoftheyear.com.au/nominate/

Nomination forms are also available at Light Regional Council offices and libraries, and can be lodged for consideration:

- **In-Person:** at 93 Main St Kapunda OR 7 Hanson St Freeling
- **Email:** light@light.sa.gov.au
- **Mail:** PO Box 72 Kapunda SA 5373

Eligibility Criteria

- Nominees must be Australian citizens (except the Award for Active Citizenship)
- Awards will not be granted posthumously
- Self-nominations will not be accepted
- Nominees must be at least 16 years of age in the year of the award presentation
- Nominees for the category of Young Citizen of the Year must be 30 years of age or less on 26 January in the year of the award presentation
- Sitting state and federal politicians, current vice-regal officers and current elected members of council are not eligible
- Retired politicians, elected members and vice-regal officers will be considered for work undertaken in addition to their official duties
- Unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated in subsequent years
- Groups of people, organisations or couples will not normally be eligible for Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year, though in exceptional cases the selection panels reserve the right to consider such nominations.
- Both individuals and organisations should be considered for the Community Event of the Year as this recognises the organising body or committee responsible for the event
- Absolutely NO weight is given to the number of times a person or organisation is nominated
- Previous recipients of the award categories may receive the award in the future however the work that this person or organisation made in receiving the original award may not be considered.
- Councils may choose to re-submit nominations that do not receive an award for future consideration in subsequent years of the program

Selection Criteria

In choosing the recipients of the Light Regional Council Citizen of the Year Awards, regard is given to the nominee's achievements in the year immediately prior to receiving the award, as well as their past achievements and ongoing contribution to the community.

An individual need only be nominated once to be considered. The number of nominations received per nominee bears no weight in their selection. Individuals cannot self-nominate.

PLEASE NOTE: it is not a requirement that the individual resides within the Light Regional Council. The focus should be on their SPECIFIC contribution to the Light Regional Council area (e.g. an individual may live in a neighbouring council but has made a significant contribution to a community organisation within the respective council)

Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year Awards

In choosing the recipients of the Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards, regard is given to the nominee's achievements in the year immediately prior to receiving the award, as well as their past achievements and ongoing contribution to the community.

Recipients will have demonstrated outstanding contribution and community services in areas such as: education, health, fundraising, charitable and voluntary services, business, environment or any other area that contributes to the advancement and well-being of the community.

The selection criteria for Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year are:

- Significant contribution to the community
- An inspirational role model for the Australian community
- The scope of impact the individual's contribution has on the local government area

Selection panels will also give consideration to the following in assessing and comparing nominations against the above criteria:

- Personal, academic and professional achievements
- Contribution in the relevant field (how has the nominee or event 'put back' into their field to benefit others)
- Demonstrated leadership, innovation and creativity
- Contribution to development of regional community and/or economy
- Future goals and likely impact
- Degree of difficulty of the achievement and sacrifices made
- Previous awards and recognition
- Voluntary work beyond paid employment
- Nature and length of activity or service
- Achievements as an individual or as part of a group or organisation
- Availability and commitment to promote community pride and active citizenship throughout the year of the recipient's appointment

Award for Active Citizenship

The selection criteria for Award for Active Citizenship are;

- The person or group has demonstrated leadership in and for the community
- The person or group's involvement in the community
- The scope of impact the person or group's work has on the community

Community Event of the Year Award

The selection criteria for Community Event of the Year are;

- The quality of the event
- The scope of impact the event has on the Light region
- The event's contribution to the community

Community Project of the Year Award

The selection criteria for Community Project of the Year are;

- The quality of the project
- The scope of impact the project has on the Light region
- The project's contribution to the community

Who can be nominated?

Citizen of the Year Award: to be eligible, the person must be an Australian citizen.

Young Citizen Award: to be eligible, the person must be an Australian citizen aged at least 16 years but under 30 years of age on January 26 in the year of the award presentation.

Award for Active Citizenship: A person or group delivering outstanding work or for an event or cause, staged in the community during the past year.

Community Event of the Year Award: this is presented to the person/group who has staged the most outstanding community event during the past year.

Community Project of the Year Award: this is presented to the person/group who has completed the most outstanding community project during the past year.

How are the nominations assessed?

Nominations will be considered by the Elected Body of Council and voted on by secret ballot at the December meeting of Council. The decision of Council will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

In considering nominations, the Council seeks to satisfy itself that the person or group concerned has met the criteria. The judging of the nominees will be based on the information provided in and attached to the nomination form.

For more information, visit the Citizen of the Year Awards website
www.citizenoftheyear.com.au