

Section:	MAYORAL MINUTE	date
Item: National Awards for Local Government 2006.		
File: File No		

REPORT SUMMARY

Council entered five categories of the 2006 National Awards for local Government and were winners in two of the seventeen open sections (above 15,000 population).

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council convey to Executive Manager North Coast Water, Mr Ian Preston and his supporting staff, Council's congratulations and pride in their achievement of winning the open category of Asset Management in the 2006 National Awards for Local Government.
2. That Council convey to Mr Tim Howarth, Manager of Council's Information Technology section and his supporting staff, Council's congratulations and pride in their achievement of winning the open category of Information Technology in the 2006 National Awards for Local Government.
- 3.. That Council express its congratulations and support to all council staff involved in lodging applications to the 2006 National Local Government Awards.

BACKGROUND

2006 marked the 20th anniversary of the commencement of the National Awards. This year the awards attracted well over 200 entries from the 703 local government councils across Australia. The awards provided an excellent opportunity for local government to publicly reflect on its success and celebrate the contribution it makes to our nation.

ISSUES

Council was entered on five open categories as follows:-

1. **Asset Management.** The Regional Water Supply Strategy was showcased and focused on management of water as an asset.
2. **Community Business Partnerships.** This application the Councillor tours program as a means of engaging with community.
3. **Local Government Leadership award for Injury Prevention and Management.** Council will recall winning a State award for its Rural Fire Service Safe Operating Procedure which addressed Occupational Health and safety issues of the RFS.
4. **Information Technology.** Council's application was titled "Life in the Engine Room" and detailed how council's IT team addressed the many logistical and systems challenges our new organisation.
5. **Natural Resource Management.** This application highlighted the environmental management practices supported under the Clarence Floodplain Project.

By any measure the achievements in the 2006 National Awards were simply outstanding with CVC winning two of the seventeen open categories, a feat not matched this year by any other Council across Australia.

The General Manager and Mayor accompanied Messrs Preston and Howarth to Old Parliament House on 27th November (as part of the ALGA national Assembly) for conferring of the Awards by three Federal Ministers. It was a wonderful occasion and a fitting tribute to our dedicated staff. It was one of my proudest and happiest moments as your Mayor to witness their success and well deserved recognition on

the National stage. Undoubtedly the occasion would also be a highlight in the careers of our committed staff.

As a Council we pay tribute to all those who have expertly showcased our dynamic new local government entity under the competent leadership of our General Manager Stuart McPherson who is also deserving of special praise. Our staff continue to succeed in an array of specialised areas and as a Council we pay tribute and offer sincere congratulations.

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Cllr Ian Tiley

MAYOR

5th December 2006