



MEDIA RELEASE

LGMA Partners with Australian Organisational Excellence Foundation to deliver National Awards Program

LGMA National is pleased to partner with the Australian Organisational Excellence Foundation (Foundation) to establish a national awards program and criteria for the local government sector. The criteria is used to assess and improve any aspect of an organisation, including leadership, planning, people, knowledge, safety, service delivery, product quality and bottom-line results.

The Foundation is dedicated to promoting excellence and sustainable improvement. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that will focus on the development and recognition of organisations and individuals in the pursuit of excellence. The Foundation manages the Australian Organisational Excellence Awards (AOEA) and is a member of the exclusive Global Excellence Model Council. Only those applicants – if any – that achieve the required score through a rigorous approach to measurement are given an Award.

Applicants and winners of the Awards over the years have been of all shapes and sizes and from a wide range of industries. The AOEA have the most rigorous evaluation process in Australia and the eligibility for an Award is judged against the criteria set out in the Australian Business Excellence Framework, an integrated leadership and management system recognised internationally.

The benefits of participating in the LGMA Excellence Awards include:

- Recognition of the organisation's achievements in community service, enhancing both its credibility in the market and the community's confidence in dealing with the organisation.
- Continuous improvement and benchmarking of the organisation's community service efforts through the annual community service assessments
- Greater focus on community service throughout the entire organisation, brought about via both the Awards and the assessment process.
- Enhanced morale at all levels of the organisation, brought about by greater autonomy to deal with community complaints and an overall reduced level of complaints.

Excellence Awards Process:

- **Expert Panel:** Will be setup to develop a local government tailored criteria that will be used to evaluate Award applicants. The criteria will be developed in reference to leading global Excellence Models;
- **Application Process:** Local Councils will have the opportunity to apply to the Local Government Excellence Awards Program which will involve:
 - Registration and online application process including the payment of a registration fee;
 - Desktop review by the panel of evaluators;
 - Site visits to eligible applicants' organisation;
 - Comprehensive evaluation report provided by the evaluation panel to the applicant organisation containing findings and recommendations from the site visit; and
- **Awards:** Awards will be presented at Gala Dinner of the LGMA National Congress;
 - Award winners will be identified as examples of best practice and promoted through LGMA digital media and events; and
 - Applicants can be awarded against a range of different levels from recognition through to the gold award.

About LGMA

LGMA is local government's peak association, working on behalf of local government employees for more than 78 years to promote professional development, local government best practice, and partnership opportunities for Australian Councils.

We facilitate a range of professional development and training opportunities at a national level to attract the best and brightest, and coordinate international partnerships with sister organisations to learn and share with our international peers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Attend the 2015 National Congress in Darwin

Go to *LGMA Board Room, Darwin Convention Centre at 12:30 PM Friday 1 May,*

OR

contact **Nancy Wang** 03 9682 9222, Program Officer, LGMA National Office,
admin@lgma.org.au