



Embracing
Change

Honours Recipients 2022



WALGA

Local Government Honours 2022



I am incredibly pleased to announce the Local Government Honours recipients for 2022.

In this year's list of Honours award winners, we have some of WA's most outstanding and committed community leaders from across both regional and metropolitan councils. We have a mix of long serving Elected Members and Local Government officers, plus those who may not have length of service behind them but have nevertheless demonstrated a passion and vision for improving their communities.

It is with strong memories that I announce the Local Government Medal winner is a former WA Local Government Association President, Troy Pickard (posthumous). Troy was an exceptional leader who changed so many lives for the better because he chose to dedicate his life to Local Government. We have all been incredibly saddened by his passing, and he has left a legacy of a robust and transparent Local Government sector that is representative of the needs of all communities across the State. Throughout his time as President of WALGA, President of ALGA and also as Mayor of the City of Joondalup and Deputy Mayor of the City of Stirling, Troy had a real impact on the lives of individual Western Australians and through this award, we thank him, and his family, for his incredible service to our Local Governments.

Congratulations to Malcolm Cullen who is receiving Life Membership of the WA Local Government Association. Malcolm's vision for the Goldfields region is incredibly exciting and he is an asset to our entire Local Government sector. Phillip Blight, President of the Shire of Wagin for 14 years and an Elected Member for 30 years, is also being recognised for his dedicated service, receiving an Eminent Service award. Both these leaders, and others like them, are making a real difference to the lives of people in local communities.

In our Merit Award category, one notable mention is the service of Russel Thomson who has been an Elected Member of the Shire of Woodanilling for 40 years and was President for 26 years. Russel is a highly respected leader who has demonstrated strong and sensible decision making that has ensured long term financial security for the Shire.

This year, we have an exciting new award, the Young Achievers Award, which recognises our leaders of the future. This award acknowledges people aged 35 or under who demonstrate remarkable leadership capacity and commitment. In addition to recognising Troy Pickard with the Local Government Medal, the newly introduced Young Achievers Award will also be renamed in his honour to the Troy Pickard Young Achievers Award. Troy began his Local Government career at the age of 28, and his dedication and work ethic quickly propelled him into a position of leadership. The Troy Pickard Young Achievers Award will encourage and celebrate young people doing great things within the Local Government sector. I'm hopeful that in coming years this Award will see many more nominations and I encourage member Local Governments to consider both Elected Members and Local Government officers who may have already made a notable contribution, despite their young age.

Thank you to all 25 award winners in the 2022 Honours Program for your dedication and hard work in driving change, negotiating positive outcomes and for making a difference to all Western Australians.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Karen Chappel'.

Cr Karen Chappel JP
President



Local Government **Medal**

Recognises outstanding achievement and contribution to the Local Government sector and/or the WA Local Government Association.

The Local Government Medal is presented in recognition of:

- Exceptional service which advances the goals of the WA Local Government Association and/or Local Government;
- Exemplary character and ongoing championing of the Local Government sector;
- Significant contributions to the community through Local Government;
- Outstanding achievements and/or significant contributions in the advancement of the position and value of the WA Local Government Association and/or Local Government within the wider community.



Troy Pickard (Posthumous)

Former President of the WA Local Government Association Troy Pickard has been posthumously awarded the Local Government Medal for his outstanding service over two decades to the WA Local Government Association, the Local Government sector and individual Local Governments.

Troy began his Local Government involvement in 2001 when he was elected to the City of Stirling and as Deputy Mayor at just 28 years of age. In 2006 he moved to the City of Joondalup where he was elected Mayor, then re-elected again in 2009 and 2013.

Throughout his time with both Local Governments, Troy was instrumental in many major infrastructure projects. He championed the investment of almost \$20 million in new community facilities and negotiated the \$4 million investment into the State Government owned and operated HBF Arena. Troy also helped secure State Government support for Ocean Reef Marina and lobbied for commitments for other key projects including the Joondalup Performing Arts and Cultural Facility, Coastal Kiosks/Cafes and the City Centre Commercial Development. Under his leadership in 2011, the City of Joondalup was named the "World's Most Liveable City" at the UN-endorsed International Awards for Liveable Communities (for Cities with a population from 150,000 to 400,000).

Troy has served both peak State and National Local Government bodies, firstly as Deputy President of the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) from 2007 to 2010. He was elected President of WALGA in April 2010, a position he held until July 2015. In his five and a half years as President, Troy played a key role influencing and shaping the Local Government sector in a time of significant change. His persistence and influence were of great benefit in funding negotiations, with hundreds of millions of dollars secured for Local Government across many portfolios including roads, libraries, community infrastructure, waste and environment initiatives. His most significant achievement during his time at the helm of WALGA was a five-year road funding agreement with the State Government worth approximately \$700 million.

Troy was a director of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) from 2007, Vice President from 2010 until 2014 and the first Western Australian President of ALGA in 26 years from 2014 to 2016. During his two-year term as President, Troy drove the campaign to secure \$1.105 billion in extra road funding, the biggest single funding commitment from any Federal Government since Federation to the Local Government sector. He also secured an extension and increase in the quantum of Roads to Recovery, developed collaborative relationships with other peak national bodies, and brought a professional, considered perspective of Local Government before the nation's leaders at the Council of Australian Governments to ensure the sector was respected as a sphere of government.

He represented Local Government by addressing over 20 Local Government, industry and international conferences, and held more than 100 meetings of influence with the Prime Minister's Office, Treasurers, Ministers, Shadow Ministers, backbenchers, Greens and Independents.

Troy was an Alternate Member of the Commonwealth Local Government Forum; Co-President (Pacific Sub-Region) of the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific; and a former Chair of the ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability BiodiverCities Advisory Committee. He was a patron, honorary member and life member of numerous local clubs and community organisations.

With a professional career in marketing, Troy's dynamic leadership resulted in intelligent, articulate and passionate commentary and throughout his dedicated career he raised the profile of all Local Governments, ensuring there was education and awareness about the importance of the sphere of Government closest to the community.

For his outstanding service to Western Australian Local Governments, Troy Pickard is awarded the 2022 Local Government Medal.



Life Membership **Award**

Recognises outstanding service to the WA Local Government Association and to the Local Government sector, and distinguished contributions to the community, as a State Councillor, an employee of the Association or an employee of a Member Local Government.



Malcolm Cullen

Elected to the Shire of Coolgardie in 2008, Malcolm Cullen is an outstanding example of a committed community representative who always works tirelessly to improve opportunities for people living in his Shire. Recognised for his visionary leadership, Malcolm was elected President of the Shire in 2009 after serving just 12 months as an Elected Member.

A third generation Coolgardie resident, Malcolm and his family have played a significant role throughout the years in shaping the history of the Coolgardie region. A small business owner in the Shire, Malcolm was so committed to his community service that he closed his business to concentrate more time and energy on his Local Government role.

Well known throughout the Goldfields-Esperance region, Malcolm's statesman-like approach to leadership, his calmness during negotiations and his focused attitude to decision-making have ensured he is a highly respected team leader. Malcolm strongly believes the Shire cannot exist in isolation, with cooperation and collaboration across all sectors being critical for future-proofing the Shire.

Malcolm has always taken an innovative approach to considering non-rate revenue increases to support the Shire in the longer term and has spearheaded the development and implementation of the Shire's Collaboration Strategy, which has been applauded as a unique Local Government plan, developing strong relationships with mutual benefits to all parties. In addition to this strategy, Malcolm has driven revenue generating programs such as the Coolgardie Regional Waste Facility, the Kambalda Aerodrome and the 200-room Kambalda Worker Accommodation Village, which have all played an essential role in supporting the local mining industry that provides approximately 85 per cent of the Shire's rate revenue.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Malcolm was integral in instigating Meals on Wheels for elderly residents in the region who may otherwise have gone without nutritious meals during this time. He is dedicated to the history of the region and has been actively involved in programs to restore historical buildings and places in the region, such as the Coolgardie Post Office and Ben Prior Park.

Malcolm was a WA Local Government Association Deputy State Councillor from 2013 until 2015 and State Councillor from 2015 until 2021. He is a current WALGA Deputy State Councillor.

Malcolm is the current President of the Goldfields Esperance Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils and has been a member for the past eight years. He is the current Chairperson of the Local Emergency Management Committee and the Goldfields Esperance Regional Road Group.

Malcolm continues to demonstrate, through his leadership and passion, full and unwavering commitment to the development of the Shire of Coolgardie and the broader Local Government sector in WA. His advocacy skills have brought many benefits to the Shire and his exceptional commitment to the development of the region has delivered many opportunities and benefits.

Malcolm consistently demonstrates wisdom, compassion and foresight in all his community discussions and decisions and is a worthy recipient of the WA Local Government Association Life Membership Award.



Eminent Service **Award**

Recognises eminent service and distinguished contribution to the WA Local Government Association and the Local Government sector as a President, Mayor, State Councillor, Elected Member, or officer of the Association or member Local Government.



Phillip Blight

Serving the community of Wagin for 30 years as an Elected Member, Phillip Blight is an outstanding community leader who is highly respected, not only in the local community but throughout Western Australia's Local Government sector. Elected to the Council in 1992, Phillip was elected Deputy President in 2007, then President of the Shire in 2008.

As Shire President for the past 14 years, Phillip has been a strong, stable but visionary leader who deals with challenging issues with compassion and sensitivity, ensuring the most productive outcome for the community. Despite his long and loyal service to the Council and the community, he remains enthusiastic and passionate about developing new opportunities, infrastructure and facilities for residents throughout the Shire.

Phillip mentors new Elected Members and has been instrumental in ensuring high professional standards and protocols within the Council Chambers. He has also been a strong advocate for the retention and autonomy of individual country Shires and constantly promotes Local Government as a critical and effective voice in the Australian system of government.

Throughout his extensive service, Phillip has been, and continues to be, a member of many Council committees, regional organisations and community groups, and is a current member of the WA Local Government Association's State Council, representing the Central Country Zone. He is also a member of 4WDL VROC Committee, the Local Emergency Management Committee, the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Civic Awards Committee, the Audit Committee and the CEO Performance Review Committee, to name just a few of his commitments.



Merit **Award**

Recognises distinguished service and commitment to the community by State Councillors, Elected Members or employees of the WA Local Government Association, member Local Governments and/or a Government Agency.



Steven Carter

A longstanding member of the Dalwallinu community, Steven Carter served as Shire President for six years, from 2015 until 2021. Currently Deputy President of the Shire of Dalwallinu, Steven is a passionate community representative who is always striving to find opportunities to improve facilities and infrastructure in the district. During his time as President, Steven worked tirelessly to transition the Dalwallinu Medical Centre from Shire management to private enterprise. He was also heavily involved in driving the project to extend and renovate the Dalwallinu Recreation Centre and Sports Precinct. Serving over 15 years on Council, Steven is also a life member of the Dalwallinu Football Club and a past President of the Dalwallinu Agricultural Society.



Mark Conley

President of the Shire of Cuballing for eight years, Mark Conley served on Council for a total of 12 years, and despite retiring as an Elected Member, continues to mentor new Councillors. During his time with Council, Mark was the Chair of the Central Country Zone of the WA Local Government Association, and in that role, he ensured the concession for vehicle licence fees applying to Local Governments was not removed by the newly elected State Government. He also oversaw many local initiatives, such as securing funding for the new aged care units, achieving increased funding for local roads, and the establishment of the Cuballing Wickepin Local Emergency Management Committee, which he chaired throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Mark's calming leadership style has been welcomed and highly valued in the Cuballing community.



Wayne Davies

Serving the Quairading community as an Elected Member for 10 years, Wayne Davies was Shire President from 2017 until his retirement from Council in 2021. During his time as President, Wayne led the community through a period of major infrastructure investment, such as the redevelopments of the Memorial Swimming Pool, Caravan Park and Shire Works Depot. During his Presidency, Wayne led the Council in implementing significant organisational changes which have led to improved Council transparency, governance and community engagement. Wayne's excellent interpersonal skills have meant the Council has developed strong connections and networks throughout the community. A dedicated community member, Wayne has also been a volunteer ambulance officer with the Quairading sub-centre of St John Ambulance for many years.

Merit Award



Theresa Fancote

Serving two separate terms as a Councillor with the Shire of Brookton, Theresa Fancote began her dedicated service in 2003. Passionate about representing those in the community who are less fortunate, particularly those with disabilities and the aged, Theresa ensured Council decisions were representative of all members of the community. To better understand access challenges, Theresa travelled around the town in a wheelchair and gopher during the preparation of the Shire's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan which ensured all members of the community were catered for in the Shire's plan. Theresa championed the idea of a community garden, which came to fruition through her dedicated leadership, and was the Shire's delegate to the Small Business Centre Management Committee, the Brookton District High School Board and the Southern Avon Telecentre.



Keith House

A dedicated and long serving Elected Member with the Shire of Gnowangerup, Keith House was elected to Council in 2009, was Deputy President from 2011 until 2012, and was then elected President from 2013 until 2018. Well known for his ability to have hard conversations with compassion and empathy, Keith has been an inspirational community leader who has championed strong community connections between all the towns in the Shire. He has presided over a period of significant positive change in the community which has included the opening of the Gnowangerup Swimming Pool, the Borden Community Centenary celebrations, and the development of industrial blocks and shire housing. Keith is a long serving member and Chairperson of the Gnowangerup Hospital Board and instigator of the Aged Care facility known as Mallee Springs.



Doug Jeans

A quiet but significant achiever on Council, Doug Jeans was elected to the Shire of Mundaring in 2015, and since that time has been instrumental in overseeing significant improvements to the Council's role with the Development Assessment Panel and in land use planning decisions, allowing community members to have a greater voice in these issues. Doug is currently a member of the East Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) and was Deputy Chair of the EMRC from 2019 until 2021. Doug led the Council in establishing a Container Deposit Scheme sorting facility, which has allowed the Shire to sort over five million containers, with proceeds going back to local community groups. Doug is a highly respected, ethical and considered decision maker who is approachable and dedicated to representing community interests on Council.



Suzanne Migdale

A Councillor for the Lawley Ward at the City of Stirling since 2017, Suzanne Migdale is a well known and highly respected community leader who is passionate about identifying and eliminating wasteful expenditure at the City. Suzanne has been an active representative of the Lawley Ward, was instrumental in driving the beautification of Beaufort Street and has championed upgrades to Moyle Pavilion and Hamer Park Clubrooms, the Terry Tyzack outdoor pool, and Yokine Reserve. She strongly believes in representing vulnerable community members and has advocated for funding support for the City of Stirling Women's Centre and the Safe At Home program that supports families in crisis. Suzanne was also involved in the Council project to install matting at Trigg Beach to improve accessibility for people with a disability, the aged, and families with prams, and is currently the presiding member of Council's Planning and Development Committee.



Julee Westcott Nelson

Elected to the Shire of Carnarvon in 2011, Julee Westcott Nelson served two terms as a Councillor until 2017. She was again elected to Council in 2019 until 2021 and during her eight years as an Elected Member, Julee was dedicated to developing the Carnarvon community into a wonderful place to live, work and play. Currently the CEO of the Carnarvon Family Support Service, Julee advocates for improved housing and services for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous families in the region. During her time with Council, Julee advocated for much needed aged care facilities, which has now come to fruition, and was involved in the Fascine Foreshore Revitalisation Works, the establishment of the Shire Youth Hub Centre, and the development of the HMAS Sydney memorial and path. She was a member of numerous committees including the Audit and Risk Management Committee, the Community Growth Fund and the Development Assessment Panel.



Karlo Perkov

An Elected Member with the City of Stirling since 2017, Karlo Perkov is highly respected in the Hamersley Ward, being a genuine and approachable Councillor who has a professional work ethic and a strong media presence. Karlo is passionate about equal accessibility and is involved with Riding for the Disabled Association of WA, Young Australia League Scholarships Award and the Carine Rotary Club. During his five years on Council, Karlo has participated in the upgrade of the Carine Cats Baseball Club facilities, the investigation into the need for a multi-purpose community hub in Hamersley and has actively supported Council initiatives such as Adopt-A-Park celebrations, Get To Know Your Neighbour BBQs and the annual Wanneroo RSL Anzac Day Commemorative Service. Also committed to conservation protection, Karlo is the Chairperson of the Environmental Advisory Group.

Merit Award



Bianca Sandri

Awarded the '40 Under 40' Business News Award in 2019 and a Councillor of the Inglewood Ward since 2017, Bianca Sandri is recognised within the City of Stirling as a young professional, with a strong focus on local community, integrity, service, community engagement and fiscal responsibility. Deputy Mayor from 2019 until 2021, Bianca is respected for her exceptional leadership qualities, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Bianca has driven major projects throughout the City including the trial of e-scooters in Watermans Bay, Scarborough, Trigg, Karrinyup and Innaloo. She has been instrumental in streetscape upgrades, increased tree planting in Dianella, and the preservation of the Inglewood Mt Lawley Community Garden. Bianca was also a significant leader in the fight to save the Inglewood Bowling Club from closing in 2018.



Donna Shaw

A dedicated Elected Member with the City of Armadale for 12 years, Donna Shaw was always passionate about representing the voice of her local community group throughout her time with Council. After many years as a planning professional with various Local Governments, Donna's extensive experience allowed her to provide planning guidance to Councillors to assist them with decision making on all planning issues. Chair of the City's Development Services Committee for 10 years, Donna was also a member of the Metro Outer Joint Development Assessment Panel from 2011 until 2020. She was a committee member for the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority from 2015 to 2019 and Council's delegate to the Community Heritage Advisory Group. Now a trainer with the WA Local Government Association, Donna facilitates town planning programs for both Elected Members and Local Government officers.



Denese Smythe

A popular and well-respected leader, Denese Smythe has served a total of 14 years as an Elected Member with the Shire of York, and in 2019 was elected Shire President. Denese is committed to the improvement of opportunities for those living and working in the Shire, and her leadership integrity and stewardship have brought much needed stability to the Council. Passionate about retaining youth in the district, Denese has spearheaded numerous initiatives and programs to ensure this vision becomes a reality. She is also heavily involved in the economic development of the region and is committed to protecting and preserving local environmental assets, such as the Avon River. Denese volunteered for many years at the York Tourist Bureau and Visitor Centre and represents the Council on numerous regional organisations, including the Avon Regional Organisation of Councils.



Russel Thomson

Serving the community of Woodanilling for an outstanding 40 years, Russel Thomson continues to be a hardworking, highly respected community leader who has invested an immense amount of personal time in service to the community. A fourth generation farmer, Russel was Shire President from 1995 until 2021, and remains an Elected Member. He is passionate about securing long term funding to maintain the quality of regional roads and is a member of the Great Southern Country Zone of the WA Local Government Association. Russel has always been a driver of change and was instrumental in establishing a financial reserve account for the Shire. He is an active firefighter and office holder with the volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, and in 2008 he received a Great Southern Development Commission Medal for Excellence in Natural Resource Management. Russel was an early supporter and innovator in the structured collaboration between neighbouring Local Governments.



Caroline Wielinga

Caroline Wielinga has been an Elected Member with the City of Armadale for 12 years and is passionate about environmental protection in the face of unprecedented residential and industrial growth in the City. Caroline was instrumental in the adoption of an Urban Forest Strategy at the City of Armadale in 2014, which saw an additional investment of \$500,000 per year into a strategic tree planting program. This was one of the first Urban Forest Strategies in Western Australian Local Government and recognised the need to grow trees now, to increase urban canopy for the benefit of future generations. Caroline has also worked tirelessly to see improved community facilities across the City and ensure equity of provision of facilities in the older areas of the City. She is a strong advocate for the program to upgrade or rebuild many old community buildings throughout the City.



Local Government *Distinguished Officer* **Award**

For outstanding contributions made by officers of Member Local Government or employees of the WA Local Government Association to the Local Government sector.



Laurie Crouch

Laurie Crouch is an outstanding example of a committed community advocate who has dedicated his working life to improving the lives of people in local communities. Laurie began his career at the City of Stirling in 1987 as Assistant Pound Keeper. Before his appointment as the City's Manager, Community Safety in 2002, Laurie held the positions of Ranger, and Ranger Services Administrator. Despite most of his working career being in challenging leadership roles, Laurie is highly regarded throughout the sector and is well known for his willingness to collaborate with other Local Governments and assist other officers. As Manager Community Safety, Laurie has driven numerous projects that have received widespread recognition, and notably, under Laurie's leadership, the City was the first Local Government in Australia to run a fully funded and successful inhouse community security service for the entire municipality. After serving 35 years with the City of Stirling, Laurie has announced he will retire in September 2022.



Stuart Jardine

Chief Executive Officer of the City of Stirling since 2007, Stuart Jardine has dedicated an outstanding 25 years to metropolitan Local Governments in Western Australia, plus an additional 21 years to Local Governments in the United Kingdom. Under Stuart's highly respected leadership, the City of Stirling is recognised as a contemporary, innovative and leading Local Government that consistently delivers for its community. Stuart is passionate about customer service and has driven numerous world class service focused initiatives such as the implementation of the customer relationship management system, which is the most significant digital transformation project in its history. Honesty, transparency, and objectivity are the cornerstones of his leadership, and he continues to mentor Local Government professionals who aspire to senior executive positions. Prior to his appointment as CEO with the City of Stirling, Stuart was the Director, Strategic Planning and then CEO at the City of Gosnells.



Jean Knight

Always striving to deliver better programs and opportunities for the community of Dalwallinu, Jean Knight is an outstanding example of strong and committed leadership, constantly searching for, and discovering ways to improve opportunities for people living in regional Western Australia. After 16 years with Bankwest, Jean began her Local Government career as Deputy Chief Executive Officer at the Shire of Morawa, where she oversaw many of the Shire's financial projects. Jean has since worked at the City of Bayswater and the Shires of Toodyay and Chittering, before taking up the position of CEO at the Shire of Dalwallinu in 2016. She has spearheaded a number of high-profile projects within the community, including the release of new residential and industrial land, the extension and renovation of the Dalwallinu Recreation Centre and Sports Precinct and the development of a nature playground. Despite being a highly respected team leader, Jean can also be found serving behind the bar at the annual Christmas street party and cooking at the Australia Day breakfast.

Local Government Distinguished Officer Award



Frank Ludovico

Recently retired after an outstanding career of 36 years working in Local Governments across regional Western Australia, Frank Ludovico has left a legacy of visionary infrastructure projects that are valued by communities around the State. Frank began his career in 1986 with the Shire of Boddington, and worked with the Shires of Ashburton, Nungarin, Gnowangerup and Merredin before taking on the role of Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services at the Shire of Narrogin in 2017. Frank is highly respected for his financial management acumen and project management skills, and some of the more notable projects he has led include the construction of the \$45 million Onslow airport, the development of the \$4 million Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre, the successful negotiation of the \$750 million windfarm project in the Shire of Merredin, and the development of a complex Differential Rates Model to assist the Shire of Narrogin in its decision making.



Peter Naylor

Appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Laverton in 2017, Peter Naylor has consistently demonstrated he is prepared to go above and beyond what is required of him to create a workplace culture of support and growth. Not only does Peter believe in the critical importance of investing in staff training, he also mentors new CEOs in regional Local Governments. With a career in the sector spanning over 30 years, Peter has consistently demonstrated his skills in understanding the needs of regional communities, managing many community engagement programs to ensure productive and positive long-term outcomes. On his arrival in Laverton, Peter successfully negotiated a unique contract to ensure communities in the Northern Goldfields Working Group could meet their Departmental compliance requirements. He has also instigated several innovative Indigenous initiatives.



Mark Newman

City of Mandurah Chief Executive Officer Mark Newman has dedicated more than 45 years of service to Western Australia's Local Government sector. Beginning his career as an auditor with the Department of Local Government in 1976, Mark has held positions with the former Shire of Wanneroo, the Shire of Broome, and the Town of Bassendean, before taking on the role of Director of Finance with the City of Mandurah in 1993. Mark was appointed CEO of the City in 2003, and since his appointment has overseen numerous significant and large-scale infrastructure projects such as the CBD revitalisation and the Mandurah Ocean Marina. Mark continues to provide outstanding leadership to the Mandurah community, driving and overseeing visionary programs and plans that respond to the City's rapid population growth. Mark is a compassionate, collaborative, inclusive, supportive and empathetic leader who understands the critical importance of relationships in building a positive workplace culture.

Troy Dickard

Young Achievers Award

For notable contributions and commitment to the WA Local Government Association, Local Government and/or the Local Government sector by Elected Members or employees in the sector, who are aged 35 years or under.



Adam Hort

Adam Hort was elected Deputy Mayor of the City of Gosnells in 2021, after serving just two years as an Elected Member. With outstanding vision and leadership skills, Adam is highly respected by his Council and his constituents, is a driver of positive change within the community, and applies his career experience as Chief Pharmacist with the WA Country Health Service to ensure improved outcomes for the Gosnells community. He is a champion of community engagement and always ensures Council decisions represent the views of the people. He also regularly seeks the views of senior staff on technical issues that fall outside his area of expertise. Adam works closely with the Mayor to lead the Council and has deputised for the Mayor on numerous occasions at Council meetings, functions and events.



Caitlyn White

A Conservation Officer with the Town of Bassendean, Caitlyn White is passionate about improving environmental outcomes within the community and sharing her knowledge and experience with others across the State. Caitlyn was appointed into her role in April 2020, and since that time has led inter-departmental teams and volunteer groups, managed contractors, and liaised with State Government agencies to promote the protection and enhancement of the natural environment. She is at the forefront of environmental research and is trialling new non-chemical ways to manage weed problems within the community and is heavily involved in driving community consultation programs. Caitlyn's problem-solving skills, technical knowledge and work ethic are highly valued by her peers at the Town.

Do you know someone in Local Government who should be honoured in 2023?

Are you aware of anyone in Local Government who has made a notable contribution to the Association, Local Government or their individual Council? If so, why not consider nominating them for an award as part of the WA Local Government Association Honours Program?

There are many Elected Members who have made a significant contribution to their Local Government and the Association which is worthy of formal acknowledgement. Chief Executive Officers, too, are often overlooked for the outstanding service they provide to Local Government and the Association through their various endeavours.

The Honours program represents a tremendous opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our Elected Members and officers, and to recognise those who have given so much of their personal and professional time to the betterment of their communities through Local Government.

The nominations period for the 2023 Honours Program will open in late 2022 and close in mid-2023.

Information on the Honours Program can be obtained by emailing the Association at honours@walga.asn.au. Telephone enquiries can be directed to Kathy Robertson, Executive Officer Governance, on (08) 9213 2036.



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