

CS11 Volunteer of the Year Policy

Purpose	To recognise the outstanding voluntary contribution made by community members.	
Department	Governance	
File No.	PUB/0800	
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Review History	738.02.14	13 February 2014
	03.01.2018	25 January 2018
	117.6.2020	23 June 2020

1 Definitions

Nil.

2 Objective

Council wishes to recognise the outstanding voluntary contribution made by community members and to honour one worthy community member as Volunteer of the Year on an annual basis.

3 Scope

Voluntary work is recognised as a valuable part of life in Australia. It contributes to community participation and the building of social connections.

The Flinders Municipality has one of the highest volunteer participation rates in Australia. The Study of Economics, Business and Social Structure on Tasmania's Flinders Island, undertaken in 2014 by FTI Consulting on behalf of Flinders Council, identified Flinders' volunteer participation rate at 70.14%, averaging 5.68 hours per week. This is equivalent to 83 full time employees. This includes people who formally volunteer with organisations as well as those that do not have an affiliation with an organisation, but contribute informally, for the overall benefit of the communities of the Flinders Municipality

In comparison, the 2014 State of Volunteering Tasmania report suggests that the volunteering rate in Tasmania (excluding Hobart) was around 37%.

4 Policy

- 4.1 Council will call for nominations for Volunteer of the Year on an annual basis.
- 4.2 Nominations will remain on the table for consideration for 3 years, after which time a new nomination is required.

- 4.3 If no public nominations are received, and no previous nominations remain, Council may select an appropriate recipient.
- 4.4 Nominations will be considered, and the Volunteer of the Year determined, by Council in Closed Council.
- 4.5 Nominations are to be considered prior to consent being sought from nominees, but consent must be sought from the nominee chosen as Volunteer of the Year before any announcement of that individual as recipient is made. Should the nominee not agree to being named Volunteer of the Year, Council will reconsider other nominations, if any.
- 4.6 The Award will be presented at the Flinders Island Show by the Mayor or the Mayor's nominee.
- 4.7 A framed Volunteer of the Year Award certificate, as well as a monetary award of \$100, will be presented to the recipient or donated to the organisation of their choice.
- 4.8 The name of the Volunteer of the Year will be added to the Citizens Honour Board which is displayed in the Flinders Art and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark.
- 4.9 The name of the Volunteer of the Year will be included in the Flinders Council Annual Report.
- 4.10 Only individuals are eligible to be nominated, not organisations.
- 4.11 Nominees must be over sixteen (16) years of age as of the 1st day of July in the year of the nomination.
- 4.12 The award will be given to the person who has made the most significant voluntary contribution, in quality and quantity, for the benefit of the Furneaux Community, organisations or individuals.
- 4.13 Recipients can receive only one Volunteer of the Year Award during their lifetime.

6 Legislation

Local Government Act 1993

7 Responsibility

The responsibility of this policy rests with the General Manager.