

**SUPERLOCAL  
AWARDS**

Ko Tātou  
**LGNZ.**

# **SuperLocal Awards**

Ngā Tohu  
Toa ā Rohe

# Key information



Local government plays a huge role in shaping our communities — yet much of its work goes unnoticed. The SuperLocal Awards are all about changing that. Every year, councils go the extra mile to deliver what their communities need and want, and these awards are our chance to celebrate and share those successes.

A highlight of the LGNZ annual conference, the awards showcase the best in leadership, collaboration, innovation, engagement, and environmental sustainability.

Now's your chance to showcase how you're making a difference in your community. Get your entries in and help us shine a light on the incredible work happening across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Entries close at 5pm on 15 May 2025.

## **DATES/**

Applications open \_\_\_\_\_ 3 March 2025

Applications close \_\_\_\_\_ 15 May 2025

Judging \_\_\_\_\_ 11 June 2025

Shortlisted finalists announced — 19 June 2025

Award ceremony \_\_\_\_\_ 17 July 2025


## **KEY CONTACTS/**

Chief Judge // Susan Freeman-Greene  
LGNZ // [susan.freeman-greene@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:susan.freeman-greene@lgnz.co.nz)

Project Manager // Sally Bunce  
LGNZ // [sally.bunce@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:sally.bunce@lgnz.co.nz)

## **DINNER AND AWARDS NIGHT/**

 17 July 2025

 Te Pae Convention Centre  
Christchurch



**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
**WHO ARE WE NOMINATING?**

A MAYOR OR CHAIR  
AN INDIVIDUAL

# SuperHuman Tū Kaha

**This award is for those gems of local government who go above and beyond.** We're asking every Mayor and Chair around the motu to nominate an elected member from their council or a community board — a hidden gem who exemplifies what being an elected member is all about. Your nominee will be a genuine giver, enabler and doer who always goes above and beyond for their community. They are driven by a clear purpose, and genuine desire to lift their community for the better.

## CRITERIA

TO NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR THE SUPERHUMAN | TŪ KAHA AWARD, YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THEY ARE:

- + **A connector and facilitator.** This person showcases exceptional ability in bringing broad and diverse groups together, helping council make progress through partnerships and collaborations.
- + **An innovative thinker.** This person demonstrates a track record of creative problem-solving and innovative thinking that challenges the status quo and makes a positive impact.
- + **An active enabler.** This person has the proven ability to transform ideas into reality efficiently and effectively, making sure intent is followed up with action.
- + **A voice amplifier.** This person actively listens to and elevates community voices, especially those who aren't often heard from, and ensures these local voices help shape council work and decisions. They create a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone in the community.
- + **An expectation exceeder.** This person consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty, showing dedication and commitment to their role, team, and community.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. In 2,500 words or less, nominations should be submitted with detailed examples for each criteria, including specific projects, initiatives or examples that demonstrate the nominee's mahi.
2. Up to four pieces of additional supporting evidence such as engagement materials, participation data, feedback mechanisms, and examples of resulting policy or programme adjustments may be submitted to enrich the application. These should be in either .pdf, .png or .jpeg format.
3. Provide a 60-90 second video from colleagues, community members and/or stakeholders who support the application and why. Video content must be filmed on a phone and provided in landscape format. To level the playing field, professionally produced content is not permitted.
4. Provide two PR summaries. One should be 150 words or less, and the second 500 words or less. The PR summaries may be used if the nominee is a shortlisted finalist or winner and may be used in press release(s), promotional or marketing activities.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- + To be eligible to enter, the individual must be nominated by either a Mayor or Chair of a current LGNZ member organisation.
- + Membership with LGNZ must be current at both the time of application and at the awards ceremony.
- + The nominated individual must be an elected member.
- + The nominated individual, their current employer or employer at time of application through to the completion of the awards process, may not have been prosecuted, fined, or have charges or fines pending, for a violation of any environmental, social, or commercial law in Australia, New Zealand or overseas in the past three years.





**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
**WHAT ARE WE NOMINATING?**

AN LGNZ MEMBER COUNCIL  
A PROJECT, PROCESS OR METHOD

# SuperEngaged Tū Hononga

**This award is all about the fresh and creative ways a council has encouraged their community to participate in local government.** They've found a way to ensure local voices contribute to decision-making – including voices that aren't always heard. Through these innovative approaches to engagement and participation, these councils have made sure their communities' views are truly reflected in their work.

## CRITERIA

FOR THE SUPERENGAGED | TŪ HONONGA AWARD, YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING:

- + **Inclusivity and diversity.** You can demonstrate engagement with a wide range of community members, especially those who aren't often heard from in local government.
- + **Innovative engagement methods.** You have used creative and innovative approaches to community engagement, ones that move beyond traditional methods and lead to greater and/or broader community participation.
- + **Genuine responsiveness.** You can provide tangible examples of how community feedback was not only collected, but also actively influenced decisions and approaches.
- + **Positive impact and outcome.** You can provide success stories or metrics showing the tangible benefits to the community resulting from this engagement initiative.
- + **Transparency and accountability.** You have evidence of clear communication and reporting back to the community about the engagement process and the subsequent actions taken.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. In 2,500 words or less, applicants for the SuperEngaged | Tū Hononga Award should provide a detailed submission outlining how they've met the criteria above.
2. Submit a minimum of two, maximum of four, pieces of supporting evidence such as engagement materials, participation data, feedback mechanisms, and examples of resulting policy or programme adjustments. These should be in either .pdf, .png or .jpeg format.
3. Provide a 60-90 second video from colleagues, community members and/or stakeholders who support the application and why. Video content must be filmed on a phone and provided in landscape format. To level the playing field, professionally produced content is not permitted.
4. Provide two PR summaries. One should be 150 words or less, and the second 500 words or less. The PR summaries may be used if the nominee is a shortlisted finalist or winner and may be used in press release(s), promotional or marketing activities.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- + To be eligible to enter, the applicant must be a current LGNZ member organisation at both the time of application and at the awards ceremony.
- + Applicants, their current employer or employer at time of application through to the completion of the Awards process, may not have been prosecuted, fined, or have charges or fines pending, for a violation of any environmental, social, or commercial law in Australia, New Zealand or overseas in the past three years.





**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
**WHAT ARE WE NOMINATING?**

AN LGNZ MEMBER COUNCIL PLUS PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS  
A PROJECT OR PARTNERSHIP

# SuperCollab Tū Kotahi

This award is for an innovative collaboration or partnership that's delivered a brilliant outcome – one that's had a significant positive impact on all or part of a community's social, economic, environmental and/or cultural wellbeing. Whether a council's worked with one or multiple collaborators, they've taken a genuine partnership approach built on trust, respect and innovation. The outcome of this partnership or collaboration will have long-lasting benefits to their community.

## CRITERIA

FOR THE SUPERCOLLAB | TŪ KOTAHI AWARD, YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING:

- + **Meaningful collaboration.** You can demonstrate the creation or strengthening of a relationship that has resulted in an extraordinary outcome. This may be between two or more councils; or between a council and one or more groups or organisations such as an iwi/hapū, community group, not-for-profit organisation, a central government agency or a commercial enterprise.
- + **Exponential impact.** You can show how the partnership or collaboration produced results greater than the sum of its parts, with each partner achieving significantly more together than they could have individually.
- + **Tangible community benefit.** You can provide evidence of significant positive impacts on the community resulting from the partnership, including social, economic, environmental, or cultural improvements.
- + **Effective communication and cooperation.** You can demonstrate how the partnership prioritised transparent and equitable communication, decision-making and conflict resolution, ensuring a productive and cooperative relationship.
- + **Sustainability and longevity.** You can outline how the partnership's outcomes are sustainable over the long term and highlight the lasting benefits it will bring to the community.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications should be made under a project or partnership name, with the consent of all partners or collaborators named in the application, with one person nominated as the key point of contact.
2. In 2,500 words or less, applicants for the SuperCollab | Tū Kotahi Award should submit a comprehensive overview of the partnership, including the background of the partners involved, the genesis of the collaboration, the project or initiative developed, and the outcomes achieved.
3. Submit a minimum of two, maximum of six, pieces of supporting documentation such as partnership agreements, project reports, community feedback, and evidence of the initiative's impact. These should be in either .pdf, .png or .jpeg format.
4. Provide a 60-90 second video from colleagues, community members and/or stakeholders who support the application and why. Video content must be filmed on a phone and provided in landscape format. To level the playing field, professionally produced content is not permitted.
5. Confirm that all other partners know of this application (tick box).
6. Provide two PR summaries. One should be 150 words or less, and the second 500 words or less. The PR summaries may be used if the nominee is a shortlisted finalist or winner and may be used in press release(s), promotional or marketing activities.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- + To be eligible to enter, one of the partners or collaborators must be a current LGNZ member organisation at both the time of application and at the awards ceremony.
- + The partners or collaborators referred to in the application, their current employer or employer at time of application through to the completion of the Awards process, may not have been prosecuted, fined, or have charges or fines pending, for a violation of any environmental, social, or commercial law in Australia, New Zealand or overseas in the past three years.





**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
**WHAT ARE WE NOMINATING?**

AN LGNZ MEMBER COUNCIL  
A PROJECT, PROCESS, METHOD OR IDEA

# SuperIdea Tū Auaha

**This one's for those who think outside the box.** This will go to a breathtakingly clever solution to an age-old cultural, social, economic or environmental problem in the community. Big or small, this idea will have shifted people's thinking away from the "we've always done it this way" mentality to a new paradigm.

## CRITERIA

FOR THE SUPERIDEA | TŪ AUAHA AWARD, YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING:

- + **Innovation and creativity.** You can demonstrate the groundbreaking nature of your solution, and how you've used innovative ways to solve a long-standing problem.
- + **Community relevance and engagement.** You can prove how the idea aligns with your community's specific needs and wants, and/or have involved your community in the creation or implementation of the idea.
- + **Scalability and replicability.** You can show that the idea has potential to be used or adapted by others (e.g. councils or communities), emphasising its versatility and the broader impact it could have.
- + **Sustainability and longevity.** You can provide evidence of the idea's enduring, long-term value, ensuring it can continue to benefit the community over time.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. In 2,500 words or less, submissions for the SuperIdea | Tū Auaha Award should include a comprehensive description of the idea, the problem it is seeking to solve, its development process, and implementation strategy.
2. Up to four pieces of supporting evidence such as community testimonials, expert endorsements, and quantitative results will significantly strengthen the nomination. These should be in either .pdf, .png or .jpeg format.
3. Provide a 60-90 second video from colleagues, community members and/or stakeholders who support the application and why. Video content must be filmed on a phone and provided in landscape format. To level the playing field, professionally produced content is not permitted.
4. Provide two PR summaries. One should be 150 words or less, and the second 500 words or less. The PR summaries may be used if the nominee is a shortlisted finalist or winner and may be used in press release(s), promotional or marketing activities.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- + To be eligible to enter, the applicant must be a current LGNZ member organisation at both the time of application and at the awards ceremony.
- + Applicants, their current employer or employer at time of application through to the completion of the Awards process, may not have been prosecuted, fined, or have charges or fines pending, for a violation of any environmental, social, or commercial law in Australia, New Zealand or overseas in the past three years.





**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
**WHAT ARE WE NOMINATING?**

AN LGNZ MEMBER COUNCIL  
A PROJECT OR INITIATIVE

# SuperSteward Tū Tiaki

**This award is about celebrating the brilliant work our councils do for Aotearoa New Zealand's environment.** The winning initiative will have made a huge impact on the unique environment of a council's city, district or region – for example, improving biodiversity, mitigating the impacts of climate change or coming up with an innovative way to reduce waste. Maybe it involves raising community awareness of environmental issues, or enabling and empowering locals to take action themselves. However a council's tackled it, they've found creative and engaging ways to make a positive impact on the environment in their rohe.



## CRITERIA

FOR THE SUPERSTEWARD | TŪ TIAKI AWARD, YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING:

- + **Evidence of environmental improvement.** You've made demonstrable improvements to the natural environment – whether through enhancement, protection or restoration.
- + **A focus on positive outcomes.** You've clearly identified the environmental outcome/s you want to achieve and have a clear plan for realising them.
- + **Localised focus.** You've come up with local or regional solutions that are tailored to your unique environment, and your specific community's wants and needs.
- + **Thoughtful execution.** You've used resources in sustainable and culturally appropriate ways to deliver the project.
- + **Long-term impact.** You have a focus on continuous improvement that will ensure your initiative has a long-lasting positive impact.
- + **Community awareness.** Your initiative takes the opportunity to raise community awareness of environmental challenges, and/or creates opportunities for communities to get involved in addressing them.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. In 2,500 words or less, applicants for the SuperSteward | Tū Tiaki Award should provide a detailed description of their initiative, including its objectives, implementation strategies, and achieved outcomes.
2. Up to four pieces of supporting evidence such as community testimonials, expert endorsements, and quantitative results will significantly strengthen the nomination. These should be in either .pdf, .png or .jpeg format.
3. Provide a 60-90 second video from colleagues, community members and/or stakeholders who support the application and why. Video content must be filmed on a phone and provided in landscape format. To level the playing field, professionally produced content is not permitted.
4. Provide two PR summaries. One should be 150 words or less, and the second 500 words or less. The PR summaries may be used if the nominee is a shortlisted finalist or winner and may be used in press release(s), promotional or marketing activities.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- + To be eligible to enter, the applicant must be a current LGNZ member organisation at both the time of application and at the awards ceremony.
- + Applicants, their current employer or employer at time of application through to the completion of the Awards process, may not have been prosecuted, fined, or have charges or fines pending, for a violation of any environmental, social, or commercial law in Australia, New Zealand or overseas in the past three years.

# Application process

Submit your application before the deadline of 5pm, 15 May 2025. Requests for extensions beyond this deadline will not be considered.

All entries will be assessed for eligibility and completion. Disqualified entries will be notified accordingly.

External announcement of shortlisted entries will be made on 19 June 2025.

Judges complete two rounds of judging between 29 May and 5 June 2025 — one independently and one as a panel.

Judges will be announced at a date to be determined, after the application deadline.

Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on 17 July 2025.

# Obligations of finalists

A representative from each winning award will be required to make a short acceptance speech at the awards ceremony. Acceptance speeches should be no longer than one minute.

A representative from each winning award will be required to work with LGNZ or its representative to promote the entry in 2025 and beyond.

# Terms & conditions

Incomplete entries will be disqualified.

By submitting an entry, applicants agree to the terms and conditions.

Entries remain the property of LGNZ and are not returned.

Judges' decisions are final.

LGNZ accepts no responsibility for entries that are not received, delayed, incomplete or are lost due to a technical problem.

LGNZ reserves the right to withdraw a category and cancel the award if an insufficient number of entries has been received, the quality of entries does not meet the criteria, or the entries are deemed inappropriate for any reason.

LGNZ shall be entitled to use all material supplied as part of the entry (including, but not limited to, images, video recordings, written content and any other supporting documentation) as necessary in any media and in any form to promote or market the entries or awards programme.

Video content must be filmed on a phone and provided in landscape format. To level the playing field, professionally produced content is not permitted.

Videos may be edited using editing software (but keep it simple).

Previous finalists are welcome to resubmit an entry in the same or different category but winners from previous years may not submit the same entry or project in any category.

Projects can only be submitted in one category.

SUPERLOCAL  
AWARDS

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LGNZ.