



MEDIA RELEASE

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Thursday 12 October 2023

Penrith crowned NSW Overall Sustainable Cities Winner for 2023

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KAB NSW) is pleased to announce **Penrith City Council** as the overall winner of the **Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 2023 Sustainable Cities Awards**.

Running since 1994 these awards recognise and support the achievements of Councils and their communities who are actively working towards making Sydney a model for sustainable practices.

In addition to the overall trophy Penrith also took out the *Circular Economy Award* for its Penrith's Recycled Coffee Cups in Road Base project.

The award was presented on 12th October at a KAB NSW function hosted by the by previous year's winner, Randwick City Council.

Layla McNeil, KAB NSW Sustainable Cities Assessor, observed that Penrith City Council has a long running commitment to recycling and sustainability and continually encourages and educates residents, all while emphasising environmental benefits and fostering community engagement.

"Penrith's Recycled Coffee Cups in Road Base project, Textile Drop-off Day, and Recycle Your Bicycle Drop-off and Repair Event collectively reflect the Council's unwavering commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainability. Community spirit truly comes to life through WestCare's Christmas Appeal which receives overwhelming support from local businesses and provides joy and essential necessities to residents impacted by economic hardships. Additionally, Regentville Public School, cultivates a sustainability-focused culture among its students, with initiatives like Nudie Tuesdays and Waste Free Wednesdays leaving a positive imprint." said Ms McNeil.

The awards program and event were held with the support of Randwick City Council, the NSW EPA, Red Energy and TerraCycle.

Val Southam, CEO of KAB NSW, said that these Sustainable Cities Awards inspire councils and communities to make a genuine and lasting contribution to their area and helps build strong partnerships between local authorities, businesses, community groups, schools, and individuals.

"The commitment of the councils, organisations and individuals who entered is evident in the calibre of the entries received this year and I would like to congratulate this year's winners and finalists and everyone that entered." said Ms Southam.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AWARDS PARTNERS AND SPONSORS



[ENDS]



KAB NSW 2023 Sustainable Cities Winners and Highly Commended Table

CATEGORY	WINNER	HIGHLY COMMENDED
Overall Sustainable Cities Award	Penrith City Council	North Sydney Council
Biodiversity Conservation	Building Bridges to Boorowa North Sydney Council and Boorowa Community Landcare Group	Plant With Us Program Randwick City Council Plant with Us Team
Circular Economy <i>(Sponsored by NSW EPA)</i>	Recycled Coffee Cups in Road Base Penrith City Council	Soft Plastics in the Circular Economy Randwick City Council
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation <i>(Sponsored by Red Energy)</i>	A Climate Resilient Blacktown City Blacktown City Council	Racing to Zero: Net Zero Emissions Targets City of Canada Bay Renewable Power Purchase Agreement Cumberland City Council
Communication and Engagement	Fire Hazards Caused by Batteries Bayside Council	'I Care About a Clean Street' Campaign City of Canterbury Bankstown Loving Living Ku-ring-gai Ku-ring-gai Council Environment & Sustainability Team
Heritage, Culture and Community Spirit	Bringing Country Back to Wetlands Wildflower	Elders in Residence Blacktown Arts
Litter Prevention <i>(Sponsored by NSW EPA)</i>	<u>Clean Communities</u> Luv the Lake Litter Prevention Program Wollongong City Council and Shellharbour City Council <u>Clean Waterways</u> Zero Litter in Georges River Georges Riverkeeper	<u>Clean Communities</u> Love Your Home Ground Inner West Council Keep Homebush West Clean! Strathfield Municipal Council <u>Clean Waterways</u> Be A Sport: Let's Stop Rubber Crumb Loss AUSMAP and Ku-ring-gai Council
Liveable Cities	Blacktown City Cool Centres Program Blacktown City Council	Wyatt Park- Lidcombe @ Night Cumberland City Council

CATEGORY	WINNER	HIGHLY COMMENDED
Local Legend	<u>≤ 25 years</u> Environmental Leadership Group Kegworth Public School	<u>≤ 25 years</u> Sustainability at IGS International Grammar School
	<u>25 – 65 years</u> Paint to Donate Australia Jemma Wlasichuk, Shed Eleven	<u>25 – 65 years</u> City of Newcastle Illegal Dumping Project City of Newcastle and Newcastle Community Corrections
	<u>> 65 years</u> Recycling for our Community The Auburn Hospital Recycling Team	<u>> 65 years</u> Biodiversity Predator-Safe Pontoons The Fix it Sister Shed
Resource Recovery and Waste Management	Correcting Waste Issues Randwick City Council	Imperfect Low Waste Living Program North Sydney Council
Sustainability in Business	Zero-Waste Click & Collect Manly Food Co-operative	Protein Recovery's Sustainable Future Bush's Proteins (AJ Bush & Sons (Manufactures) Pty Ltd)

Contact Details

Val Southam, Chief Executive Officer KABNSW at ceo@kabnsw.org.au, t: 0419016401

EDITOR'S NOTE:

About the KABNSW Sustainable Cities Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Sustainable Cities Awards Program is a community and environmental awards program for metropolitan councils and communities in NSW.

The Sustainable Cities Awards inspire communities to make a genuine and lasting contribution to their area, with partnerships between local authorities, businesses, community groups, schools, and individuals.

About KAB NSW

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KABNSW) is the state's premier organisation for litter reduction and environmental sustainability. Independent and not-for-profit, our focus is to engage councils and communities to make NSW the least littered state in Australia, transforming littering behaviour to create a beautiful and more sustainable environment.

Over a 40-year history we have built a state-wide network of dedicated individuals, businesses, schools, community groups and government bodies striving to deliver a cleaner environment.

Through five core programs we work with communities across regional and metropolitan NSW to educate and motivate environmental initiatives.