

7. Senior of the Year, 2009

Nominations have now closed for Councils Senior or the Year award. Two nominations were received.

Group Manager Community and Relationships

BACKGROUND

Bega Valley Shire Council presents an annual award of Senior of the Year as part of Seniors Week celebrations. The Award is to be presented by the Mayor at Council's annual Senior's Concert, the Golden Gig, on Wednesday 18th March 2009.

10 The award recognises the contribution of an outstanding older person in recognition of their services to the community.

A public notice was placed in the local media and letters calling for nominations were sent to all appropriate Bega Valley Shire organisations. Several announcements were made on local radio over a period of one week. Nominations closed on 18th February 2009.

Two nominations were received. An outline of the nominations has been separately circulated to Councillors in a Confidential memo.

ISSUES

Social / Cultural

20 The Bega Valley Shire has an ageing population, hosting the Golden Gig and the presentation of Senior of the Year helps to keep older people in the Shire in touch with their community and reduce social isolation.

Importantly the Senior Award also recognises the significant and important contribution older people have made and continue to make to the community of the Bega Valley.

Financial

There is no financial impact to Council. All associated costs are covered in the Social Planning Budget and through community support

Resources (including staff)

30 There are no resource implications, organisation of the Senior of the Year award and Golden Gig are part of the work plan for the Social Planning and Ageing and Disability Services.

OPERATIONAL PLAN

Organisation of the annual seniors concert and the Senior of the Year Award is included in the Operational Plan for Council's Social Planning and Ageing and Disability Services.

CONCLUSION

The Senior of the Year award is an important way for Council to recognise the role the older people play in our community. In order to ensure the confidentiality of the nominees, the nominations are summarised in a separate confidential memo to Councillors.

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse (name to be inserted) as Senior of the Year for 2009