## **AWARD CATEGORIES**

**OVERALL EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS** (Proudly sponsored by Dungog Chronicle) - Recognises the operational and marketing excellence of any business in providing their product or service to their customer, and the role they play in making a positive contribution to the community.

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE BEST BUSINESS** (Proudly sponsored by Clarence Town & District Progress Association) - The community's recognition of the best business in terms of overall positive customer experience.

**OUTSTANDING NEW BUSINESS** (Proudly sponsored by Addison Partners) - A business in any category operating for less than 2 years. The award recognises operators who have demonstrated good business practices in setting up, starting and growing their business.

**TOURISM and HOSPITALITY** (Proudly sponsored by Dungog Regional Tourism Inc.) - Recognises those businesses that provide great products and/or services with a positive attitude that helps to promote and build a positive image for the Dungog District. For example, tourism operators, cafés and restaurants or entertainment providers.

**RURAL** and **MANUFACTURING** (Proudly sponsored by Lovey's Grocers IGA Dungog) - Recognises those businesses producing primary products, added value primary products or manufactured products who are innovative and/or outstanding in their field. For example, farmers, manufacturers, nurseries and vineyards.

**TRADES and CONSTRUCTION** (Proudly sponsored by Ray White Rural Dungog and Clarence Town) - Recognises builders, plumbers, electricians, fencers and other trades who provide high quality service and excellent standards in their field.

**RETAIL and PERSONAL SERVICES** (Proudly sponsored by Tinshed Brewery) - Recognises those businesses that provide a great shopping or personal service experience.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES** (Proudly sponsored by Settlers Arms) - Recognises those businesses that provide services to consumers and other businesses. For example, accountants, real estate agents, business advisers, wealth managers and solicitors.

**ENVIRONMENT and SUSTAINABILITY** (Proudly sponsored by Sneddens Fencing Products) - Recognises those businesses that reduce the impact of their operations on the environment and/or provide products or services that have a positive environmental impact. Includes all business types, including primary producers.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** (Proudly co-sponsored by Bobby's Country Rental and The Mai-Wel Group) - Recognises those businesses that provide outstanding customer service.

**SMALL BUSINESS – 2 to 5 EMPLOYEES** (Proudly sponsored by Westwood Dungog Providores) - Recognises a small business with 2 to 5 employees that has demonstrated good business practices in operating and growing their business

**SMALL BUSINESS – 6 or MORE EMPLOYEES** (Proudly co-sponsored by Royal Hotel Dungog and Cararwirry Forest Escape) - Recognises a small business with 6 or more employees that has demonstrated good business practices in operating and growing their business.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES** (Proudly sponsored by Chic & Antique) - Recognises the role of not-for-profit organisations in the Dungog Shire, this includes not for profit events and the people who work within them. Nominations can be made for individuals or for whole organisation's, and can reflect contributions made to the community, or organisational leadership and/or best practice.

**OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE 21 or UNDER** (Proudly sponsored by Dungog Rotary International) - Recognises people under 21 who demonstrate initiative in providing high quality service and excellent standards in their field.

**OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE OVER 21** (Proudly sponsored by Insurance Advisernet) - Recognises people who are aged 21 or over who demonstrate initiative in providing high quality service and excellent standards in their field.