

16 August 2024



Official information Request: Super Local Awards LGNZ 2024

I am writing to you in response to your request received 14 August for the following information.

I wonder if I may ask about some of the details for this award. I understand that my local councillor Colin Olds has been proposed for an award. There is some debate in the community about the award. May I ask which award he has been proposed for, who proposed him and the criteria they used to support the application.

We have assessed your request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). I have received information to provide the following response:

The SuperLocal24 awards (Ngā tohu SuperLocal) are run every year by Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ). SuperLocal is LGNZ's flagship event every year — it brings together local government professionals from across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Every year 700 delegates attend LGNZ's SuperLocal conference – mayors, chairs, CEOS, councillors and senior management. Key people from other sectors can also attend, including government and non government agencies.

The SuperLocal Awards recognise and celebrate excellence in councils around Aotearoa. This year there is a new award at the SuperLocal24 awards – it is called the SuperHuman Award. Mayors and Chairs from councils are asked to nominate an elected member from their council or from a community board.

Whilst Mayor Martin Connelly was on an extended leave of absence earlier this year, the South Wairarapa District Council Acting Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter, nominated Councillor Colin Olds for this award.

The award criteria is: "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. They're a SuperHuman!"

The criteria, which are listed in further detail on the LGNZ website state that the nominee for the SuperHuman award must be someone who goes several further kilometres / miles for their community – beyond the role of a councillor. The nomination must show how they work for the community and that their reward is the task and what it brings to the community.

These details are on the LGNZ website, which is a public website with open access to view and read. https://www.lgnz.co.nz/events-networking/conference-awards/superlocal-conference/superlocal-awards/

The SuperLocal Awards are being announced in Wellington at LGNZ's SuperLocal conference on Friday 23 August 2024.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. If this request is selected it will be published at https://swdc.govt.nz/lgoima-proactive-release/, with your personal information removed.

You have a right to request a review by the Ombudsman on this response. Further information about this process can be found on https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/what-ombudsman-can-help/complaints-about-government-agencies/how-make-complaint or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz

Nāku noa, nā

Rob Thomas

Manager, Stakeholder Relationships