



Awards Criteria & Submissions

Information for Councils



Welcome

Welcome to the third annual Cities Power Partnership Climate Awards! As Australia's largest local government climate alliance we are excited to once again recognise outstanding council-led initiatives all over Australia, and celebrate the exceptional achievements of member councils striving to lower greenhouse gas emissions and embrace clean energy.

As in past years, we are looking for entries for our Achievement Awards in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable transport, and community engagement.

We will also again hail individual heroes with the Climate Champion Award and the Climate Ambassador Award.

New in 2020 is the Innovation Award, which seeks to uncover and celebrate transformative climate solutions from every corner of Australia. This is your chance to show us the groundbreaking climate action your council is pursuing. Project entries for the Innovation Award may fall within council pledge topics but can also be outside of these fields.

Our Climate Award winners and finalists in the past have ranged from a floating solar farm to a carbon neutral kinder, a museum energy upgrade to a zero emissions vehicle plan - and many other amazing solutions in between.

Cities Power Partnership

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For inspiration and insight have a look at our [2019](#) and [2018](#) winners and finalists.

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General Information

There are eight Cities Power Partnership Climate Awards:

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|  1 Renewable Energy Achievement Award |  5 Innovation Award - Rural/Regional |
|  2 Energy Efficiency Achievement Award |  6 Innovation Award - Metropolitan |
|  3 Sustainable Transport Achievement Award |  7 Climate Champion Award |
|  4 Community Engagement Achievement Award |  8 Climate Ambassador Award |

Important Dates to Note:



Entries open: Wednesday, July 8 2020
Entries close: Friday, September 18 2020
Winners announced: October/November 2020

2020 Award Judges



Tony Wellington

Former Mayor of Noosa

While Tony Wellington was Mayor of Noosa Council, the Council introduced a zero emissions target, full-time Carbon Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Officers, and declared a climate emergency. In 2019, Tony received the CPP Ambassador Award. Before entering politics, Tony was a filmmaker, author, photographer, visual artist and lecturer.



Dan Pediaditis

Senior Program Manager, Environment and Sustainability, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation

Dan is an environment and sustainability leader with over 20 years experience across a range of sectors and has a broad set of skills well suited to sustainability strategy, program and stakeholder management. Dan has a deep understanding of contemporary environmental challenges and is passionate about both social and environmental issues and how the two are inextricably linked.



Verity Morgan-Schmidt

Most recently Verity was Policy and Partnerships Director for Farmers for Climate Action, and CEO of FCA prior to that. Originally a farm girl from the sheep and wheat country of Western Australia, Verity is a former Executive Officer for Western Australian Farmers Federation. No stranger to advocating for agriculture's interests in the political arena, Verity managed WAFF's response to both the introduction of \$1 milk and the live exports ban, rallying farmers and rural communities to make their voices heard. Verity previously worked for Elders Ltd, including a stint at the National Wool Selling Centre in Victoria. Verity was a judge for the Cities Power Partnership Climate Awards in 2019.



Gerry Hueston

Climate Councillor and Chair of the Board

Gerry is a prominent businessman who retired in 2011 as President of BP Australasia, after a career with BP spanning 34 years in a variety of management and senior executive roles in New Zealand, Australia, Europe and the United Kingdom. He is a former board member of the Business Council of Australia, former Chair of the Australian Institute of Petroleum, and a former Commissioner with the Australian Climate Commission. Gerry is currently the Chair of Plan International Australia and a Director of the International Board of Plan International.



Tim Baxter

Senior Researcher, Climate Council

Tim joined the Climate Council from the University of Melbourne having taught and researched across a broad swath of climate law and climate policy. His work balances in-depth knowledge of emissions reduction across all scales giving him both a broad and deep knowledge of climate change in the Australian context.



How to Enter

The information on the following pages will outline the submission process and the judging criteria but entries will be made via the [Cities Power Partnership Awards website](#), where submission and criteria information can also be found.

If you have questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to email us at cpp@climatecouncil.org.au.

Best of luck with your award submission!



The award entry process is via a dedicated awards [website](#) hosted by Award Force.

Entrants will need to set up an account with a username and password (or use existing details from last year) and proceed through the entry steps which are clearly explained throughout.

The award entry login page looks like this.

You can save draft entries prior to submission and it's easy to add attachments to support your entry.

You can also revisit the awards website anytime after your entry has been submitted if you've forgotten something or would like to add information.

Starting a new award entry looks like this:

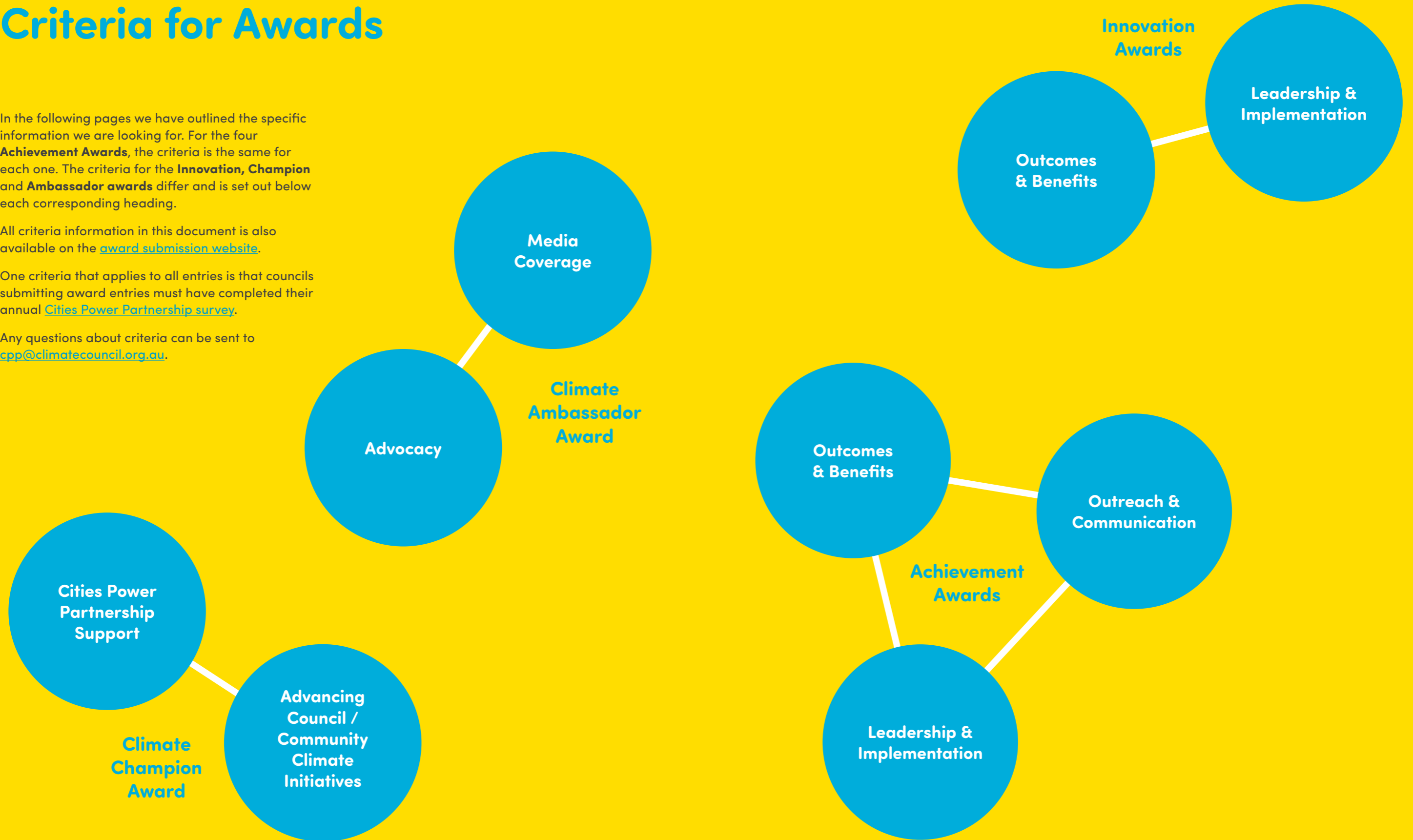
Criteria for Awards

In the following pages we have outlined the specific information we are looking for. For the four **Achievement Awards**, the criteria is the same for each one. The criteria for the **Innovation, Champion** and **Ambassador awards** differ and is set out below each corresponding heading.

All criteria information in this document is also available on the [award submission website](#).

One criteria that applies to all entries is that councils submitting award entries must have completed their annual [Cities Power Partnership survey](#).

Any questions about criteria can be sent to cpp@climatecouncil.org.au.



Achievement Awards

These awards recognise excellence in council projects, programs and policies that work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in four different award categories. They are: **Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Transport and Community Engagement**. These awards will be judged through three criteria groups: leadership and implementation (30%), outreach and communication (30%), outcomes and benefits (40%).



Award Entry Criteria:

Submitted projects must be current or recently completed (within the last 12 months), and must aim to reduce emissions of council operations, or aim to empower communities or businesses to reduce emissions. It should also be clear which Cities Power Partnership **pledge** the project links to.

Leadership and Implementation (500 words; 30% weighting)

- > Details of project from planning to delivery
- > How this project led to an ongoing operational change for Council or for businesses/communities within Council area
- > Ways in which this project has contributed to meeting Council emissions reduction goals

Outreach and Communication (500 words; 30% weighting)

Demonstrate how communicating with internal and external stakeholders has helped achieve your environmental, operational and financial results. Stakeholders may include staff, other councils, residents, contractors, community groups, businesses, climate alliances or regional council organisations.

Examples of what you might include:

- > Communications plans
- > Stakeholder training and education
- > Use of social media channels
- > Mainstream media coverage
- > Participation in mentoring activities
- > Availability of project information on Council website
- > Awards or recognitions achieved for this project
- > A letter of support from project stakeholders

Outcomes and Benefits (500 words; 40% weighting)

Please include any/all of the following, if available:

- > Greenhouse gas emissions savings, achieved or potential
- > Financial savings (operational savings, project payback, value of state government certificates)
- > Resource consumption savings (electricity/gas/fuel)
- > Renewable energy generation (value of SGC or LGC, increased awareness and/or participation)
- > Residents lifestyle benefits through increased awareness or participation
- > Facts, figures, results or certifications achieved (energy bills, energy report)

Innovation Awards

The Innovation Awards seek to uncover and celebrate transformative climate solutions that **don't necessarily fall within council's pledge topics but that are still worthy of recognition**. This is a chance for councils, towns and cities to tell us about a solution that will inspire other councils, and other levels of government, to act on climate change! There are two Innovation Awards: one for a rural/regional council, and one for a metropolitan council.

The category of the solution does not matter (it could address community resiliency, the natural environment, the built environment, water efficiency, conservation agriculture, ecosystem protection, etc), however, the key criteria will be the innovative nature of the idea or solution and how it **addresses climate change**.

Leadership & Implementation

50%

Outcomes & Benefits

50%



Award Entry Criteria:

For this award we will consider a new technology, product or process, or an integration of a new practice into overall operations that achieves a tangible outcome in climate change mitigation. Through words, infographics, images – or however you like – please describe the path and eventual outcome of your solution (if completed).

We consider a solution to be **innovative** if it:

- > Embodies a new approach that is beyond 'business as usual'
- > Has been implemented in other parts of the world, but not widely in Australia

Leadership and Implementation (500 words; 50% weighting)

- > Outline the origin of your solution and the path it took to eventual implementation. Include things like what precipitated the need for the solution, what environmental gap it filled, and how you overcame resistance or barriers
- > Tell us how your solution is innovative. Why is it not 'business as usual'?

Outcomes and Benefits (500 words; 50% weighting)

- > Describe how your project is addressing the impacts of climate change and what quantifiable progress it has achieved or is predicted to achieve (emissions avoided, cost savings, etc.)
- > Tell us how you will track the project's progress or success, and what will carry the project forward
- > Describe how your project will make (or has made) a sustainable impact on organisations, industry or community

Please note:

- > **Previously submitted** projects for the Cities Power Partnership Climate Awards are **ineligible**
- > There will be one **regional** council winner and one **metropolitan** council winner
- > Current or recently completed council projects (within the last **18 months**) are eligible for this award

Climate Champion Award

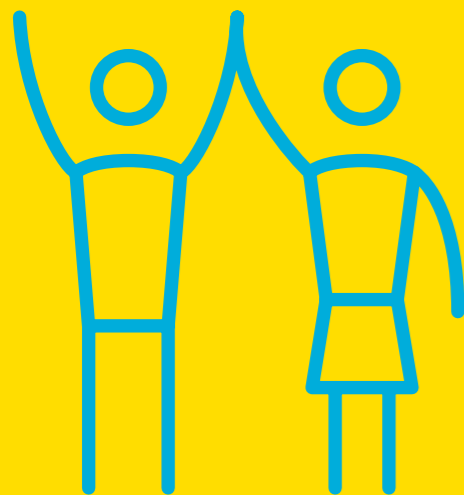
The Cities Power Partnership is only as strong as the talented council employees who work day to day on emissions reduction through their program pledges. We recognise that some employees work on emissions reduction as only one component of their job and we appreciate their dedication to our program and the larger picture of mitigating the effects of climate change.

Cities Power
Partnership Support

50%

Advancing
Council / Community
Climate Initiatives

50%



Award Entry Criteria:

This award recognises an **employee** or **a team** that has consistently worked to fulfil Cities Power Partnership pledges. By doing so, they have contributed to the CPP program **and** to carbon emission reductions within Council and the community.

Entries may be via self-nomination or through a colleague or manager. Criteria is divided into two sections: supporting the Cities Power Partnership, and advancing Council / community climate initiatives.

Cities Power Partnership Support (500 words; 50% weighting)

Demonstrate how you have participated in the development of the Cities Power Partnership network.

You could include:

- > Attendance or presenting at monthly Cities Power Partnership training webinars, including initiating discussion in the Q&A
- > Assisting the Cities Power Partnership with things such as: proactive media relations and follow up, providing a quote for a media release, writing an op-ed or a blog post
- > Discussing your involvement in the CPP with the media (link to resulting coverage if available)

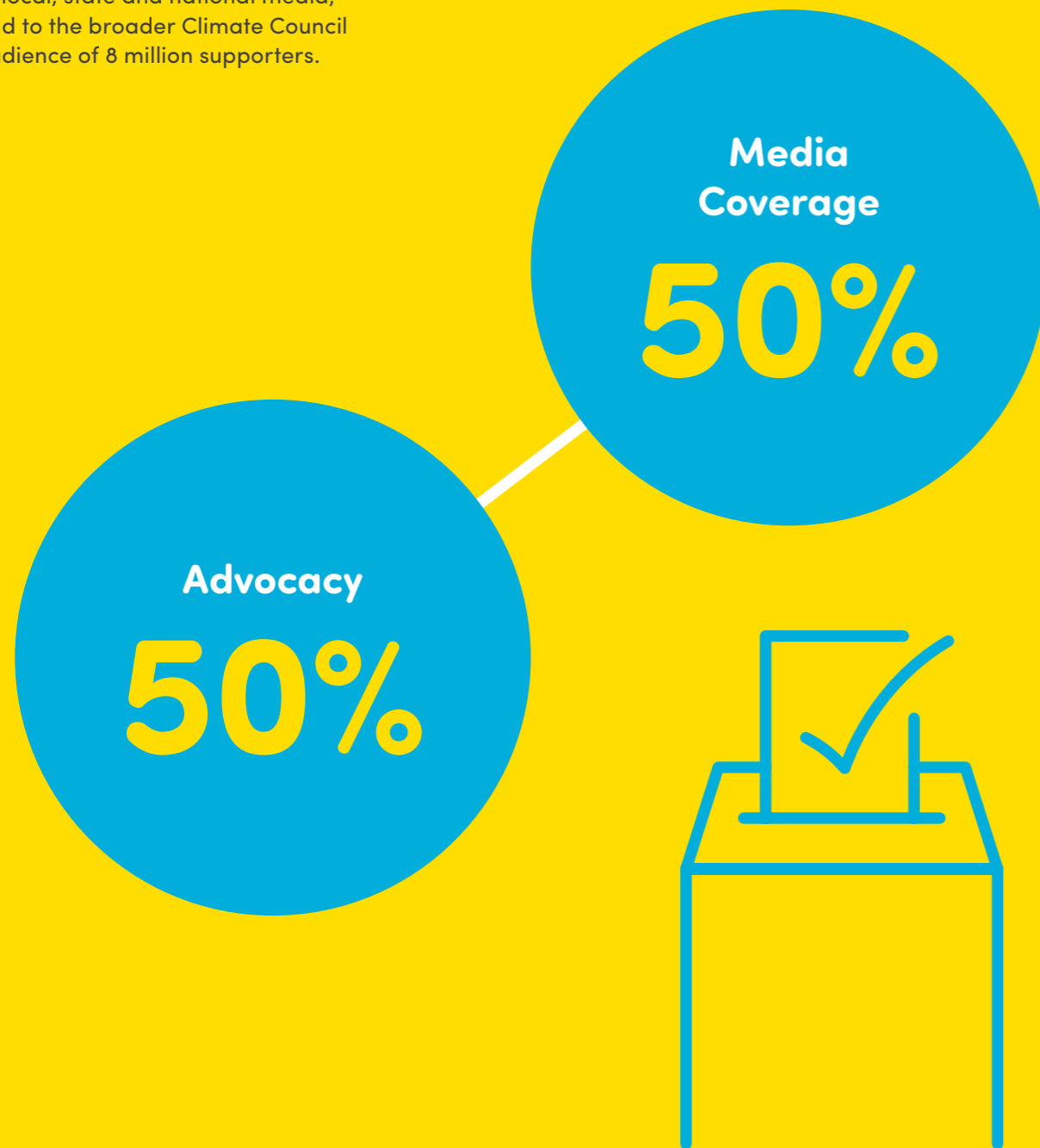
Advancing Council / Community Climate Initiatives (500 words; 50% weighting)

You could include:

- > How your work developed an emissions reduction project from concept stage to funding approval, delivery and evaluation
- > How you communicated and engaged with other Council departments to ensure project buy-in from the community
- > The impact of the project and your role in that effort

Climate Ambassador Award

The Cities Power Partnership provides members with proactive, strategic media outreach to promote councils' amazing work to local, state and national media, and to the broader Climate Council audience of 8 million supporters.



Award Entry Criteria:

This award recognises an **individual mayor** or **elected official** who has contributed to the wider climate debate by regularly participating in media opportunities, speaking engagements, community forums, presentations and more. This person has also advocated for the Cities Power Partnership in the public domain.

Media Coverage (500 words; 50% weighting)

Please describe the range of climate action related media coverage you have generated within the past 12 months. This can include radio, tv, online, print, successful social media posts and interviews. Please include links to coverage wherever possible (CPP member council profile page includes media coverage picked up by our media monitoring services. Go to citiespowerpartnership.org.au/power-partners).

Advocacy (500 words; 50% weighting)

Show how you have advocated or demonstrated for local government climate action. This includes advocacy for the Cities Power Partnership.

- > Illustrate the level of activity in internal and external council communication channels. These could include mayoral columns, letters to the editor, op eds, blog posts, social media activity or short videos.
- > Show how you have increased the profile of your Council as a local leader on climate action through:
 - Participation in industry or local government associations, climate alliances, think tanks
 - Presentations to peers or community via public forums, conferences and events

Past Award Winners & Finalists

View all of our winners and finalists at the following links:

2018
citiespowerpartnership.org.au/power-partnership-awards-2018

2019
citiespowerpartnership.org.au/power-partnership-awards-2019

Thank you for taking the time to read through this information and for entering the Cities Power Partnership Climate Awards 2020. Any questions can be sent to cpp@climatecouncil.org.au.



Cities Power Partnership

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