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MEDIA RELEASE

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NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS

People across the State are encouraged to celebrate the contributions of inspirational women in NSW councils by making a nomination for the 2020 Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock said the 13th annual awards are a chance to recognise female councillors and council staff who make their local communities better through hard work and bold ideas.

"There are a growing number of women playing a vital role in creating stronger local councils and contributing to a better life for their local residents," Mrs Hancock said.

"This has been particularly evident over the last year where a number of women have stepped up and gone above and beyond to help their community through drought or fire.

"I urge all councils and their employees as well as local residents to nominate outstanding women whose dedication and commitment contribute so much to their local council and community's overall success."

Minister for Women Bronnie Taylor said the awards were established in 2008 to recognise the outstanding efforts of women at the grassroots level of government in metropolitan and regional/rural councils.

"The NSW Government strongly encourages diversity in councils, and the contribution women make in many areas of local government continues to increase and impress," Mrs Taylor said.

"Not only do the awards recognise contemporary women who are performing brilliantly but they also inspire and encourage young women to consider a rewarding career in local government."

Award categories now open for nominations are:

- **Employment Diversity Award** – a successful council program to increase female participation in senior leadership roles or at the elected representative level
- **Elected Representative Award** – a councillor who has advanced the position of female elected representatives
- **Champion of Change Award** – a general manager or senior manager who has excelled in supporting and encouraging women's participation at their council

- **Alternative Pathways Award** – a female staff member who is breaking down gender stereotypes
- **Young Achiever's Award** – an outstanding trainee/apprentice (aged under 25).

Nominations will close on 12 February 2020. The awards will be presented at a ceremony at Parliament House in Sydney on 24 March 2020.

Full details of the categories and information on how to make a nomination can be found at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.

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