



VICTORIAN PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

KATHY MITCHELL AWARD NOMINATION GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

This VPELA award recognises excellence in a young or new professional working in the Victorian Public Sector. It is awarded to a young person, or mid/late career person following a career change, who goes above and beyond and demonstrates exceptional initiative and endeavour.

The aim of the award is to reward outstanding contributions, foster a culture of excellence in the public sector, and contribute to public sector staff retention.

Nominations are especially encouraged from Managers and Directors to recognise excellent in their teams. Self-nominations are also welcomed.

Eligibility

Nominations are accepted for people who meet all the following:

- Currently employed in Victorian public sector, including related agencies and authorities
- Maximum of 10 years' experience in planning or environment or related sectors (not necessarily all in public sector)

Selection Criteria

The award recipient will be selected having regard to the following criteria:

- Level of contribution to public sector
- Demonstrated initiative and excellence that delivered outstanding outcomes for the community

Award

The winner will be awarded unlimited attendance at VPELA seminars and events for a year (excluding study tours) and the opportunity to prepare an article in the Revue magazine and presentation at a dedicated seminar on public sector excellence.

The nominations must be made in writing and include a statement in 200 words or less why the nomination is made.

Nominations must be emailed to admin@vpela.org.au and be received at the VPELA office **by 28 November 2025**.

