2025 MAVlab Innovation Awards:

Working document for Awards Entries

Please feel free to use this document to draft your submissions. Please not this document only contains the questions you need to submit answers to, and you should preview the entire form as a PDF here: <https://www.mav.asn.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/42865/2025-MAVlab-Innovation-Awards-Entry-Form-Preview.pdf>

**Submissions close 5.59pm on 31 July 2025.**

**Main contact (you) full name:**

**Your role:**

**Your council:**

**Your email address:**

**Optional second contact full name:**

**Optional second contact role:**

 **Optional second contact phone number:**

**People Awards questions**

**Which People or Team Award/s is this entry for (multiple answers accepted):**

* Major Award - 2025 Innovatio Pro Bono Publico Award: Leader
* Major Award - 2025 Innovatio Pro Bono Publico Award: Emerging Leader
* The Thrive Award for Leadership in Change Management
* The Insights Award for Leadership in Data-driven Decision-making

**Name of the person or team you are nominating for the award (this might be yourself):**

**Tagline: Please share a short tagline for this person or team. Imagine this being a headline in a newspaper or the title of a blog (10 words or less).**

**Description: Provide us with a summary of this person or team, including anything important you want to add that does not fit in the criteria sections below. (100 words or less)**

**Please add details here if this nomination is for a team (name and role, bullet points).**

**CRITERIA 1: LEADERSHIP + EXCELLENCE – 40% Tell us how this person or team has demonstrated incredible leadership and bravery through operations, projects or programs relevant to the award (i.e. change management, data-driven decision-making or leadership). This includes resilience and innovation in the face of challenges. (300 words or less)**

**CRITERIA 2: IMPACT + LEGACY – 30% Share how this person has created impact for the organisation and the community, demonstrated through data or feedback from others. (300 words or less)**

**CRITERIA 3: COLLABORATION – 30% Explain how this person has driven a more collaborative or empowering workplace, helping to break down silos through behaviours and actions, encouraging others and supporting workplace cohesion. (300 words or less)**

*Scroll down for information on what files you can submit as supporting content.*

**Project Awards questions**

**Which Project Award is this entry for (multiple answers accepted):**

* The Connector Award for Community Inclusion and Cohesion
* The Wellbeing Award for Community Health Impacts
* The Energiser Award for Climate Resilience and Adaptation
* The Systems and Cycles Awards for Regenerative Design
* The Now and Forever Award for Impact and Legacy
* The Stronger Together Award for Council Collaboration
* The Engage Award for Impactful and Inclusive Storytelling
* The Future is Maintenance Award for Asset Management
* The Smooth Sailing Award for Service Optimisation and CX
* The Refuge Award for Innovation in Housing and Safe Spaces for Community
* The Sandbox Award for Experimentation Practice
* The Fin-novation Award for Financial Ingenuity

**Title of your project/initiative:**

**Tagline: Please share a short tagline for this project. Imagine this being a headline in a newspaper or the title of a blog (10 words or less).**

**Key goals: Use bullet points to tell us about the purpose of this project or initiative. (100 words or less)**

**Description: Provide us with a short summary of the project, including what the project/initiative is, the date it was implemented, how long it will go for, who it's for and how you're measuring value against the goals you shared above. (100 words or less)**

**How many people were on the project team? (rough figures are ok, but please keep this to project team not stakeholders - who worked on it day-to-day?)**

**What was the project duration? (In months and years. You may choose to add key phase timings - this is not required, and you will not be penalised if you do not provide this detail.)**

**What was the project/initiative budget? (This is an optional question that helps us to understand the scale and scope of your work and assess projects fairly. Any answers to this response will remain confidential and not shared publicly.)**

**CRITERIA 1: CHALLENGE + CONTEXT – 20%**

**Submit details about the challenge and the context in which you innovated; what was the problem to be addressed, and what were the factors that made it challenging and required innovation? You might share details about constraints or challenges related to time, location, stakeholders, trust, engagement or other. Please also share any specific challenges for diverse and vulnerable cohorts. (300 words or less)**

**CRITERIA 2: SOLUTION + INNOVATION – 30%**

**Share what you did – the approach or activity – and why it was innovative. Describe how your solution responded to the challenge and context. You should share the main steps you took, designing and implementing your project, as well as how you engaged with stakeholders. You should describe why this is different to previous approaches and how it might advance local government practices. Please use this criteria to highlight how your solution was designed to be accessible and inclusive. (300 words or less)**

**CRITERIA 3: IMPACT + OUTCOME – 30%**

**Tell us what happened as a result of your project or program. What were the impacts or outcomes, and how did you measure these? It is anticipated that impacts will continue to grow over time? You should use this criteria to share any specific outcomes related to accessibility and inclusion. (300 words or less)**

**CRITERIA 4: SCALABILITY – 20%**

**Share how your innovation could scale (or be replicated) to create further impacts. This criteria highlights the importance of transferring knowledge and thinking at council and network scale for greater benefit beyond municipal boundaries. Share any thoughts about how this idea or approach can be integrated with or transferred to other councils or teams within your council to leverage the collective power of your council and our council network to scale up the value of your project or initiative.**

**You should also use this section to share how your idea drives towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (either on a global scale or your localised SDGs). (300 words or less)**

For all entries, people and project awards, we invite you to submit supporting attachments.

**Supporting attachments**

This section is for you to submit and share supporting visual files including diagrams, sketches, graphs, photos and videos.

There is no minimum number of files you must submit, however, there is a maximum of five. We will not accept or consider any reports.

Any content submitted here will be considered as complementary to the criteria submissions and not in lieu of.

Valid file types you may upload include: PDF, DOC, DOCX, PNG, JPG, JPEG, GIF

Video:

* We do not accept mp4 upload, and instead invite you to share a link to your video online on Youtube, Vimeo, Google Drive or other online location.
* Video links do not count towards your 5 file maximum.
* We suggest short videos (less than 1 minute) at 16:9, however portrait aspect is also acceptable.

Suggestions:

* Submit a range of content that you feel best represents the project or person you're submitting a nomination for.
* Please add any credits (ie photographer) in the file name of your images or videos.
* Files numbered in order of review (i.e. 1, 2, 3 etc.).
* 300 dpi (landscape or portrait is acceptable)

Requirements:

* Please name your files according to this convention: ‘Council-project/person/team-##-YYYY’ (where ## is a unique number for each of your files).
* No more than 5 x documents are accepted to be uploaded.
* File size maximum is 16MB (per file).