

W.S Lonnie Top Awards

WS LONNIE MEMORIAL TROPHY
For the best annual report in 2007

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

About the Award

In 1985 the IPAA Council inaugurated yearly awards for public sector annual reporting. The premier award was established to honour Mr W. S. Lonnie, a distinguished public servant who served as Under Secretary of the Premier's Department and Clerk of the Executive Council. The W. S. Lonnie Memorial Trophy is given to the agency whose annual report tops all the rest.

Judges' Comments

This report provided an excellent summary of the agencies objectives and outcomes and it communicated very effectively on its performance against all objectives. The document was very readable and well structured with fantastic use of use of trend information. Visually the report is very effective with pictures and graphs used creatively to tell the story of a thousand words. The deserving Winner of the 2007 WS Lonnie Award is:

ALLAN SKINNER TROPHY
The best annual report submitted by an agency from the general government sector.

**PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS
(OMBUDSMAN)**

Judges' Comments

This report made excellent use of plain English for easy readability to effectively highlight objectives and report on performance. It also included impressive use of case studies, graphs and charts to communicate performance. Helpful links were employed throughout the electronic document allowing readers to navigate between specific pieces of information with ease.

MARGARET NADEBAUM TROPHY
The best annual report submitted by an agency from the Government Enterprises.

WATER CORPORATION

Judges' Comments

This report had terrific links throughout report to other more detailed info. It provided clear links between its objectives as an organization and its performance with a very innovative reporting style. Strong commitment to staff came through on HRM sections and the report made good use of trend info over 5 or more years.

MARGARET MCALEER SPECIAL COMMENDATION

For an outstanding report that, in some respect, establishes a benchmark to which others should aspire in annual report preparation and production.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIVE SERVICES

IPAA WA awarded the Margaret McAleer award for the first time in 1999. This is a special commendation to honour the late Margaret McAleer, a Member of Parliament and member of the WS Lonnie Panel for some years. The award is given, at the discretion of the panel, for an outstanding report that, in some respect, establishes a benchmark to which others should aspire in annual report preparation and production. Another factor that was considered for this particular award was the accessibility of complex information to members of the public.

Judges' Comments

Not just another 'print' report put on line, this is a report that is designed for the web: landscape format so there is no scrolling required; very attractive and effective design. The report this year has a greatly improved structure and is easy to read.

The report makes effective use of case studies. Illustrative material is appropriate and balanced. There's a novel use of symbols/graphics to designate the relationship between the agency's activities and the WA Strategic Planning Framework. It stands out from the crowd.

SPONSORED AWARDS

We thank our sponsors for the 2007 W.S. Lonnie Awards



AWARD FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Three Winners

This award recognises public sector bodies that reflect in their annual report an emphasis on human resource management aimed at achieving a respected and responsible public sector.

The judging panel found that in 2007 the standard of reporting by some agencies of this important area had greatly improved. So much so that they felt it necessary to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of 3 agencies who in particular clearly demonstrated a commitment to the effective management and development of their people.

For clearly highlighting the importance of their people and putting the programs in place to show its commitment to Human Resource Management, we awarded

THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS (OMBUDSMAN)

With a theme "Our People really are our greatest strength" which is reinforced by design and test throughout the report, it emphasized the people culture they are aiming to create in their organization. This agency clearly demonstrated a real commitment and true valuing of staff which is reinforced by the programs in place to support and achieve this. For this we awarded:

THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE

For their strong commitment to staff and emphasising Human Resource Management as an essential element providing clear links between this and the objectives of the organization. This agency clearly acknowledged and recognizes the need to respond to the current market constraints to attract and retain staff and for these reasons we awarded:

THE WATER CORPORATION

TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

Office of Auditor General Award

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

An annual report serves as the primary means by which an agency fulfils its obligations of accountability and transparency to its stakeholders. It must be accurate, credible, forthright and sincere.

Organisations must ensure that their corporate objectives, operations and challenges, as well as successes, are portrayed in a straightforward manner and without ambiguity. Also agencies are encouraged to employ innovative communication aids to improve the level of disclosure of significant issues and facilitate stakeholders' understanding of the report.

Judges' Comments

The winner of this award outlines in their report clearly defined objectives and goals. Communicating well how their performance rated against all objectives, and organisational and operational structures They discuss in a clear and concise manner the rational of what they achieved during the year and why they achieved it, emphasizing what they did well and how they are moving forward.

COMPLAINTS HANDLING

Office of the Ombudsman Award

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

Public confidence in the public sector is sustained by how well agencies respond to client difficulties with service delivery.

The annual report is an important vehicle for organisations to account for its proficiency in handling complaints. It is important for this document to acknowledge and address the challenges as well as report on successes.

Judges' Comments

Discussion about complaint handling is lacking in most of the annual reports assessed this year. The winner of this award offers multiple ways to lodge a complaint and these are described in its annual report. Commitment to improvement is shown by the agency conducting an independent audit of its complaint handling processes in 2007. That audit

confirmed the complaint handling system was strong, but also identified opportunities for improvement. These opportunities are being implemented.

CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Institute of Chartered Accounts of Australia for
MR LARRY RUDMAN, CFO AT GESB

For 2007 there were 5 very strong short-listed nominees for the CFO of the Year Award:-

1. Mick de Mamiel from the WA Police
2. Graham Thompson, CFO at WorkCover
3. Larry Rudman, from GESB
4. The 2005 CFO of the Year winner, Alec Meyer from the Fremantle Port Authority, and
5. The 2006 CFO of the Year winner, Trevor James from Synergy

The winner of the 2007 CFO of the Year Award has transformed the finance function by systematically aligning it with industry best practice including implementing timely and informative reporting tools to the Board and Executive. This strong leader has expanded the capability of the Finance team across all areas to a point where the agency is now a respected national leader in their field.

The award winner provided strategic financial insight into the agency's business operations to support its ongoing long-term financial security, during a period of significant change. In their written response to support their nomination, this person provided numerous examples of achievements during the 2007 financial year, something that enabled the judging panel to separate this winner from the other strong, short-listed nominations. Specific achievements included:-

- ✓ Establishing a centralised advisory & support function around the areas of procurement and contract management
- ✓ Implementing new financial systems, controls & procedures for a new regulated subsidiary
- ✓ Refreshing forecasting, capital reserving and pricing models

Early or voluntary adoption across a number of regulatory reporting areas

STATE RECORDS AWARD
State Records Commission for
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In addition to the winner, the judging panel noted two commendations. They are Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, and CY O'Connor College of TAFE for the high standard of their reporting on recordkeeping.

Judges' comments

The award winner is the Department of the Attorney General. The Department addressed the judging criteria exceptionally well, providing good quantitative data indicating the Department's commitment to best practice recordkeeping, and the initiatives taken to ensure that all staff are aware of their responsibilities under the State Records Act.