



2026 BUSINESS AWARDS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

In March 2026, a subcommittee began exploring a local business awards event—the first since 2011. The group met twice. Their work followed the announcement that the Business NSW New England North West Awards will be held in Quirindi on 25 September 2026, the event's first time in our shire.

The subcommittee was Tammie Clark (Chair), Jacqui Newman (Secretary), Julia Pursehouse, Sharon Thompson, Shirley Green, Theres Williams, Phillipa Fuller, Caroline Lumley, Rob Lewis, Julie Green, Kris Hope, and David Solomon. Their task was deciding by April whether to proceed in July 2026 or regroup for 2027. Thank you to the subcommittee members for your help with this task.

Before the first meeting, Jacqui reviewed the chamber's 2011 archives, consulted with Business NSW representatives regarding award categories, the use of their Awards Portal for online entries, support with judging and created a Business Awards Organiser Pack. Thank you to Jacqui, Caroline, Cate, and Jamie for initiating this planning process.

Prior to the first meeting, subcommittee members received the Business Awards Organiser Pack for review. During the meeting, members introduced themselves, discussed committee structure and roles, reviewed award categories and potential venues, and considered sponsorship options for hosting the awards in late July 2026, ahead of the Regional Awards.

Three local venues were contacted, and subcommittee members generated a list of potential sponsors, aiming to keep the event sustainable and affordable for businesses and the community.

It became clear that the 2026 Regional Awards in Quirindi would make sponsorship, nominations, and engagement challenging. The subcommittee unanimously decided to postpone the Liverpool Plains Business Awards until 2027.

This decision allows the Chamber to observe and learn from the Regional Business Awards, review award categories to better represent the Liverpool Plains business community, seek sponsorship opportunities, and generate greater interest for potential awards in 2027 across the Liverpool Plains.

Tammie Clark, Chair
2026 Business Awards Subcommittee
5 August 2026