



# EVAN PARDON

## 2018 MANAGER OF THE YEAR

THE MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD ACKNOWLEDGES AND RECOGNISES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE IN QUEENSLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

THE 2018 AWARD WAS PRESENTED TO EVAN PARDON OF ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL.

Russell Paten from Telstra presented a somewhat shocked Evan Pardon with the LGMA Queensland Manager of the Year Award at the Conference Dinner on September 13, 2018. Evan was recognised for 'an outstanding contribution to the positive growth of Rockhampton Regional Council and the community at large'.

Manager of the Year nominations are often supported by testimonials from elected members and business or community leaders. In Evan's case, Mayor Strelow highlighted Evan's commitment to innovation, best practice, continual improvement and professional development that has provided positive outcomes for the wider community during periods of great change, challenge and opportunity.

Since commencing as CEO for

Rockhampton Regional Council (RRC) in 2010, Evan developed a vision of the future for RRC as 'One Great Council' and has engendered ownership of this simple and strong message with people throughout the organisation. Judges noted Evan's ability to see beyond existing structures, practices and ideas to foster and model an attitude that consistently translates challenges into opportunities. Evan uses both day-to-day opportunities and substantial periods of challenge to encourage, develop and deepen leadership and relationships amongst staff and colleagues within the sector. Importantly, Evan's ability to provide visionary leadership is underpinned by the trust he engenders through his maintenance of high ethical and professional standards for himself, his team and his colleagues.

Evan's interpersonal skills were exemplified by his approach to Tropical Cyclone Marcia, which hit the region with very short notice in 2015. The community suffered a loss of telecommunications and power across the region, damage to council infrastructure, impacts to over 80% of businesses, activation of evacuation centres, school closures, plus rail, air and road transport disruption. Evan worked to draw in resources from outside the region to accelerate the recovery efforts.

Evan builds a culture that encourages and rewards innovation, drives action on useful changes and innovates to improve the organisation's strategic direction. Evan has supported innovation within the team through endorsing and enabling the changes within budgetary and staffing

