

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Local Government Super wins 2011 Australian Business Award for Environmental Sustainability**

**SYDNEY, July 22, 2011** - Local Government Super (LGS) has been recognised among Australia's most progressive organisations, with the superannuation fund's sustainable practices in its investment portfolio winning the Australian Business Award for Environmental Sustainability in the 2011 Awards.

Now in its sixth year, the Australian Business Awards program recognises organisations that demonstrate the core values of business excellence, product excellence, corporate responsibility, sustainability and commercial success in their respective industries. A total of 103 recipients were honoured from the 928 organisations that participated in the 2011 Awards.

The Australian Business Award for Environmental Sustainability recognises organisations that demonstrate leadership and commitment to the enhancement, preservation and protection of the environment.

Peter Lambert, CEO of LGS, said: "This is the second consecutive year Local Government Super has received an Australian Business Award recognising the sustainable practices in our investment portfolio. We've been working hard over the last twelve months to build on this foundation with some impressive results across our direct property portfolio."

LGS has been upgrading six of its fully-occupied commercial buildings with the aim to deliver a five star NABERS energy rating, and is now on track to achieve an average five star NABERS rating across the entire property portfolio at a cost which is a fraction of industry expectations.

LGS is also taking a leading role in the property industry by undertaking research to study the link between sustainability and the productivity of the occupants across four commercial buildings.

"LGS is leading the industry in the greening of older office buildings in Australia in a way that has the potential to revolutionise how owners and managers retrofit their buildings in the future," explained Mr Lambert. "The research exploring the link between sustainability and productivity is also an industry first and has the potential to change the way buildings are valued by investors and their tenants."

Tara Johnston, Program Director of the Australian Business Awards, said the standard of entries for 2011 was a testament to the strength and resilience of the Australian economy.

"Australian businesses continue to adapt business processes, invest in product development and develop dynamic e-business initiatives that increase productivity and quality standards for all. The Australian Business Awards provide a welcome opportunity for organisations committed to business and product excellence to receive recognition throughout their respective industries for driving positive business outcomes," said Johnston.

"We are proud that the Awards continue to promote the key values in the workplace which foster a vibrant organisational culture and encourage enterprise, product innovation, service excellence, marketing excellence, environmental sustainability and community contribution. We would like to congratulate all the 2011 winners for achieving exceptional results within the respective award categories."

Business award entries are separated by industry classification per award category and evaluated in accordance with the award criteria across seven main areas, including leadership and strategy,

impact on industry, adaptability and sustainability, human resource management, customer relationship management, process management and evidence of success.

## **ENDS**

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## **NOTES TO THE EDITOR**

### **About Local Government Super:**

Local Government Super (LGS) is recognised as an industry leader in responsible investment and the management of environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities across its investment portfolio.

LGS manages almost \$6 billion in superannuation assets for more than 100,000 members, including 60,000 employees working for local government or related employers throughout NSW and 40,000 former local government employees. It has approximately \$3.1bn invested in responsible investment strategies across Australian shares, international shares, property, and the absolute return and private equity asset classes.

LGS is a signatory to the United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment and a member of the Investor Group on Climate Change, Australian Council of Superannuation Investors, the Responsible Investment Association of Australasia and the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark. LGS is also a shareholder in Australian ESG research and engagement firm Regnan.

### **About the Australian Business Awards**

The Awards commenced in 2005 and are open to all private, public and non-profit sector organisations operating in Australia. This includes multi-national subsidiaries, government departments, agencies or bodies, franchisors and non-government organisations.

The mission of the Australian Business Awards is:

- To conduct an annual awards program with regional recognition and global significance;
- To recognise and honour corporate and product excellence;
- To continuously develop dynamic and rigorous framework of assessment;
- To ensure that the assessment process is fair and objective, free of bias or influence; and
- To provide a viable world-class initiative that is technologically advanced for consumers and the business community

Details regarding the Awards program can be obtained at [www.businessawards.com.au](http://www.businessawards.com.au)