



YOUNG MAYORS

Mackay

2023 Nominee
Information Pack



What is the Young Mayors program?

The Young Mayors program will support people 11 to 17 across Mackay to run for election to a brand new Mackay Youth Council of 12 members. Elected by their peers, together this Youth Council will nominate a Young Mayor, set an agenda for their 12 month Term in Office and work with the Mackay Regional Council on specific issues.

With access to training, mentoring and money to run local projects and campaigns, Youth Councils won't just have a voice - but a platform to take action on the issues that young people in Mackay truly care about.

It's free for all young people to apply and participate in Young Mayors.

Who runs the Young Mayors program?

Young Mayors is run by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA), in partnership with Mackay Regional Council and other councils around Australia. FYA is a national non-profit organisation that exists to back young people across the country to beat injustice and create long-lasting change for all.



Message from the Mayor



Through 1000 conversations with young people as part of YOL1000, you told Mackay Regional Council you want to be more involved in the decisions that impact you, your friends and your families. You told us you want to be in the room, at the table and in the driver's seat.

We heard you, and we agree. We believe that young people can make a tremendous contribution to our region.

Council is thrilled to announce that Mackay is now the first community in Australia to elect a Youth Council through the Young Mayors program. In partnership with the Foundation for Young Australians, this is your opportunity to not only share your ideas, but to do something about them.

If you've ever spotted something that could be done differently in Mackay, or something that needed to change; if you've ever wondered how you could make an impact in our community – this is your time. Nominate yourself as a candidate, cast your vote in the election and help elect this country's inaugural Youth Council.

Mackay will be a better region because of your involvement.

Mayor Greg Williamson



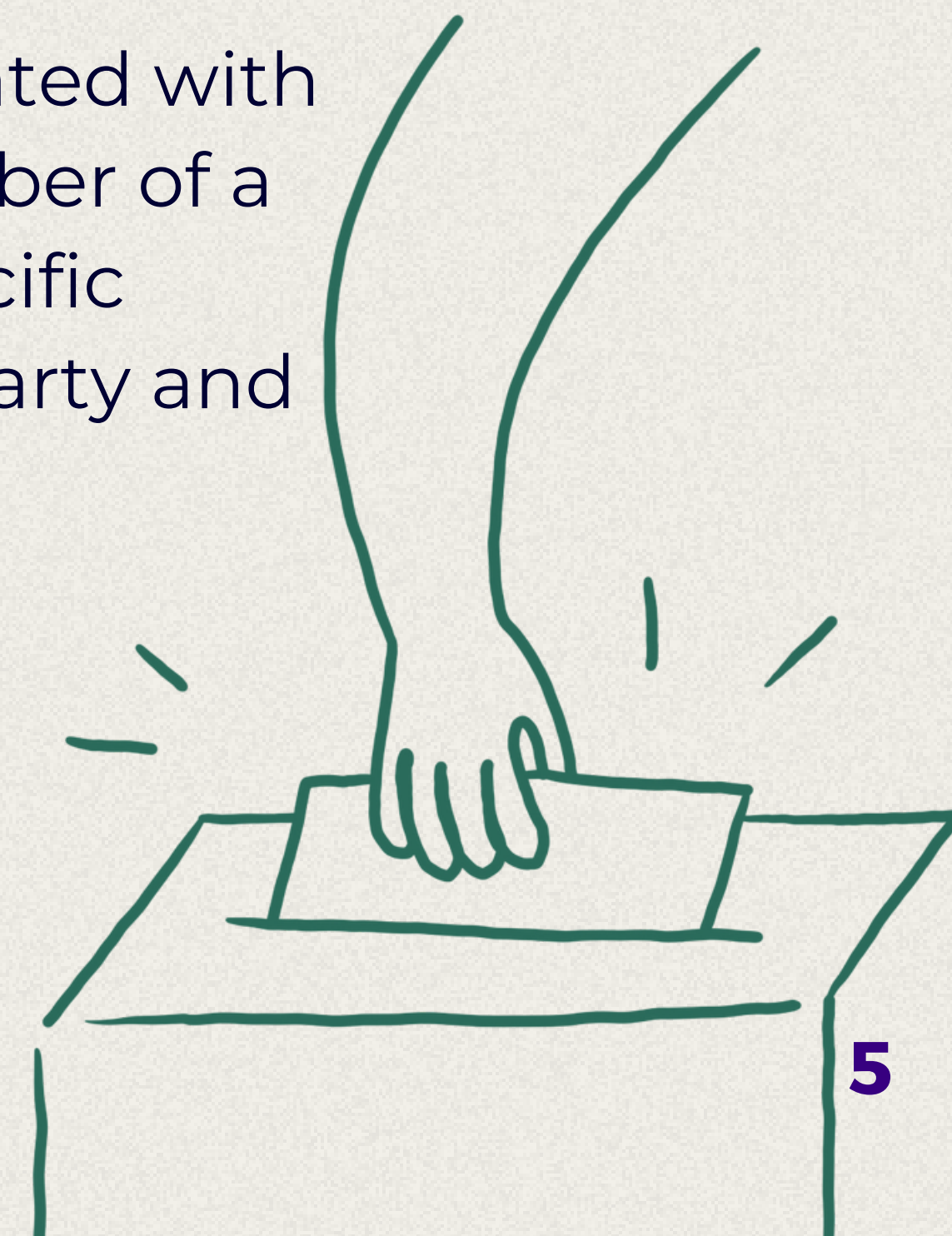
What you can expect if you're elected to Youth Council

Representing your community on the Youth Council is an important responsibility, and will be a whole lot of fun. If you're elected, you will:

- Participate in a 3-day induction, held across two weekends in late May and early June 2023
- Serve a 12 month Term in Office, from June 2023 to May 2024
- Participate in fortnightly meetings on a weekday after school (snacks/dinner provided, and transport will be available for those who need it). The meetings will be held at the Jubilee Community Centre with every second meeting held online
- Work with the Youth Council to select a Young Mayor
- Get involved in activities led by the Youth Council, and opportunities to work with the Mackay Regional Council
- Represent your community and celebrate its diversity; share opinions and ideas, learn from others and contribute to creating a better future for your region

The Youth Council is non-partisan and not affiliated with any political party or ideologies. If you're a member of a political party or subscribe to the views of a specific ideology, we'll ask you to not to represent any party and participate as an independent candidate.

Read more about our Code of Conduct at bit.ly/YoungMayorsCodeConduct



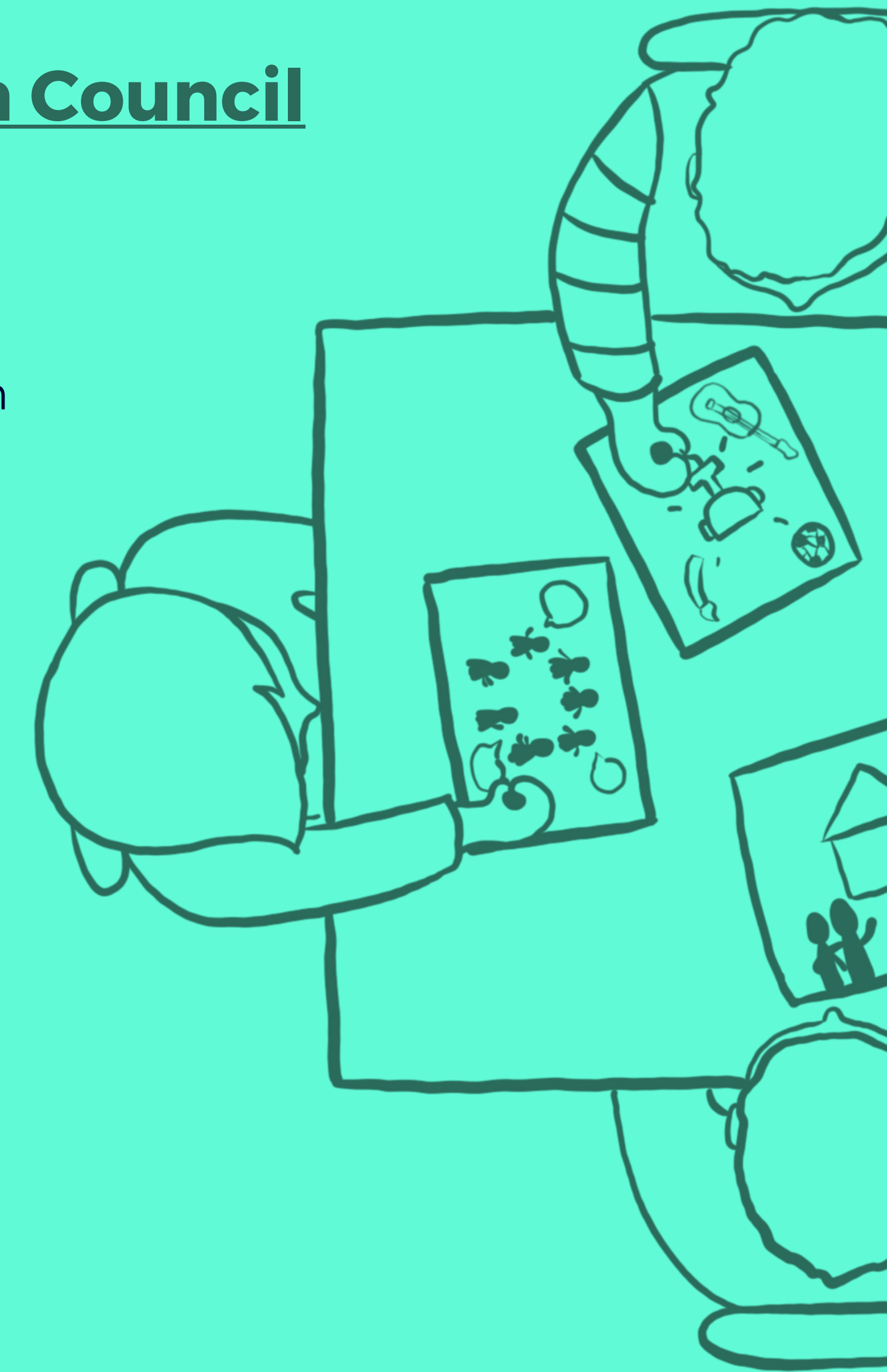
What you'll get access to

If you're selected as a candidate to run for election, you'll get access to:

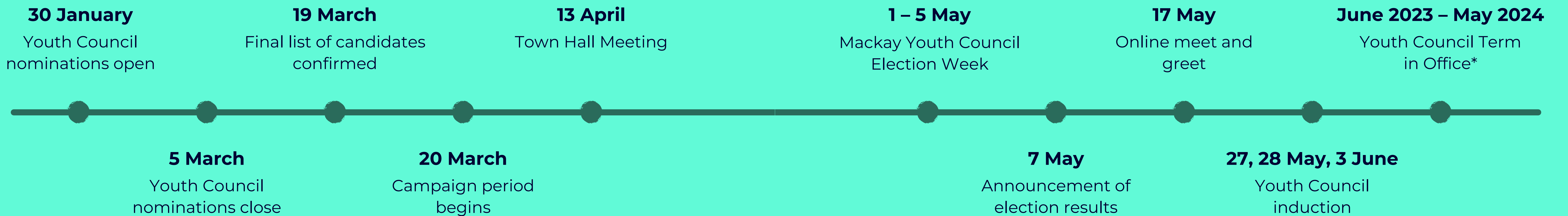
- Online workshops to prepare you for campaigning, led by experts from the Foundation for Young Australians
- A small budget for campaign materials and 10 t-shirts for you and your supporters to promote your campaign
- The opportunity to speak to your constituents at a Town Hall meeting (with support to prepare)
- Coaching and well-being support from the Young Mayors Program team throughout your campaign

If you're elected to the Youth Council you'll get access to:

- Online workshops and training during your induction and throughout your Term in Office to support you
- Support for transport to and from the Jubilee Community Centre, as needed
- Coaching and mentoring by experts from FYA and Mackay Regional Council
- The chance to connect and collaborate with Youth Councillors in other parts of the country



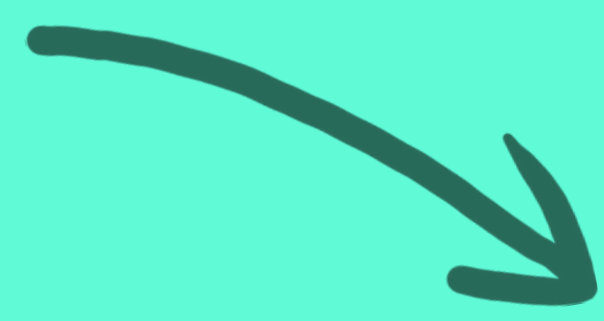
2023 Key Dates



Campaign How-To Workshops will be held online after school on:

- 20 March - Introduction to Campaigning - Part 1 from 5.00pm - 6.30pm (AEST)
- 27 March - Introduction to Campaigning - Part 2 from 5.00pm - 6.30pm (AEST)
- 3 April - Media Training from 3.00pm - 4.30pm (AEST)

* Youth Council meetings will be held once a fortnight in-person at the Jubilee Community Centre, or online



Who can apply?

Keen to apply? Excellent choice.

To apply, you must meet the following criteria:

- live in the Mackay Regional Council local government area
- aged between 11 and 17 years at the time of nomination
- be able to participate in the Youth Council induction in 2023
- submit your own nomination

You do not need to be an Australian citizen to nominate yourself.

What is the nomination process?

To nominate, all you need to do is read and fill out this form:
bit.ly/MackayNominations

After nominations close, your application will be assessed by a panel of FYA and MRC team members. Not everyone who applies will be selected as a candidate to run for election. Candidates will be selected based on responses to two questions, and availability to commit to the Term in Office.

If you're not selected, we will provide feedback to help you develop a stronger application if you want to apply again in future years.

Note: Once elected, the Youth Council will select a Young Mayor.

More information

If you have a question check out Young Mayors Mackay FAQ: bit.ly/MackayFAQ

For any other questions, or if you'd like support to fill out your nomination form, please email Savannah Vella at youngmayors@fya.org.au