



Speech By  
**Ali King**


**MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 March 2023

## **PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

### **Pumicestone Electorate, Small Business Awards**

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.15 pm): I am always impressed by the support that our Pumicestone community shows to our local small businesses, but last week when I launched for the very first time our 2023 Pumicestone Small Business Awards I was absolutely blown away by the response. In just one week we have had a total of over 1,000 nominations of small business people nominating businesses for the Small Business of the Year Award, people nominating new businesses for our newcomers award and people nominating individual employees of small businesses for an outstanding customer service award. It really does speak volumes about the incredible support that people in Pumicestone show to our small businesses.

As a former small business owner myself, including working for quite some time in delivering small business set-up services to get small businesses off the ground, I know how much that support means to our small businesses. They are incredibly dedicated, they produce great products and services day after day, week after week and it is such a great feeling to know that they are feeling the love from our community as so many of them have been nominated for a 2023 Pumicestone Small Business Award. It is an opportunity for our community to celebrate our many dedicated small businesses and really spotlight what they do. We have included categories like best trades business, best retail business, best hospitality, best health and fitness, best hair and beauty as well as best new business and Small Business of the Year. I am asking everybody in Pumicestone to look around at the small businesses that they love and support and consider nominating them for a Small Business Award or nominating a special employee for a customer service award. Just by nominating, people will go in the draw for a \$200 small business voucher.

The time line of our Small Business Awards are that nominations will remain open until 31 March. The 10 businesses in each category with the most nominations will become our finalists and between 5 and 17 April the community will be available to vote to choose the winning small business in each of those categories. We are going to hold our first-ever Pumicestone Small Business Awards on 28 April, just in time for Small Business Month, and I really do acknowledge and appreciate Minister Di Farmer for agreeing to come and be part of that event. I also particularly want to thank the member for Mount Ommaney, Jess Pugh, for her generous support and her leading light in this matter of small business awards. She has generously shared her approach with my office and I know her small business awards have been exceptionally popular in her community. We can only hope to do as good a job as Jess does. This is a chance to support our small businesses and I am calling on every single community member to nominate a small business for an award.