



# ASIA-PACIFIC

SPATIAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Recognising excellence, innovation and contribution

Nomination Kit for Individual and Industry Awards

[www.apsea.org.au](http://www.apsea.org.au)



## What are the Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards?

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The Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards celebrate the achievements of top spatial information enterprises and individuals and showcase the finest projects and most significant performance of professionals that the surveying and spatial industry have to offer. Projects and individuals attaining recognition at this premier event are deemed to be truly outstanding achievers and pre-eminent in their field.

The regional awards provide a stepping stone for organisations and individuals to be nominated in the Oceanic Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards that are held at the annual Locate Conference – the only awards for the Asia-Pacific region that recognise the excellent achievements of both individuals and organisations engaged in the surveying and spatial information industry in this region at a single event.

Previous years have seen an excellent standard of competition, with a diverse range of individuals and small, medium and large private, public and academic sector organisations vying for these prestigious awards.

APSEA is jointly hosted by the two organisations that created the concept and actively promote it – the Spatial Industries Business Association and the Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute.

## APSEA Key Principles

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- Recognise and acknowledge excellence in the surveying and spatial information industry in education and research
- Celebrate excellence before an audience of industry peers
- Encourage activities that create a stronger, larger and more relevant industry
- Congratulate individuals for their contributions to improving the quality and recognition of the profession
- Embrace the achievements of the industry and its related industries and professions
- See the industry as a whole grow and mature through its achievements in innovation, business and in project management
- Promote the industry's capabilities to a broader market

## Who is eligible to enter?

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**Industry Awards** are open to any organisation — private, public, academic or not for profit — provided the evidence submitted relates to the two years\* immediately prior to the making of the application and relates to spatial activities. Private organisations can include sole traders, partnerships and corporations.

*\* Activities completed more than two years ago may still be eligible in some extenuating circumstances. In such cases, entrants should apply for eligibility on a case-by-case basis.*

**Individual awards** are open to any individual in the surveying and spatial sciences field.

## Fees

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Entry for the awards is free for all industry nominations. There is a \$550 fee for individual nominees who aren't members of SSSI.

## Judging

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The APSEA Judging Panels for the awards are comprised of industry peers, authorities, associates and advisors who provide expert, objective and independent opinions on the merits of the projects entered in any given year.

The panels' decisions are final. No correspondence is exchanged once the decisions are made. Information about which nominations have entered or won awards will not be issued or made public prior to the awards presentation.

With respect to the Industry Awards, the judges will presume that, as a mandatory minimum:

- The workplace was safe
- The client was satisfied with the outcome
- The methodologies used were professionally and ethically sound.

In addition to specific category criteria, the Judging Panels may additionally consider a nomination's merit according to any other agreed or relevant benchmarks. Conversely, judges may elect to not confer an award in any given category if they consider that none of the nominations entered in that category warrant recognition for excellence.

## Recognition

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All winners are announced at an official regional APSEA Dinner. These events take place in conjunction with the SSSI Regional Conferences.

Nominees are NOT advised whether their submission is a Finalist prior to the awards presentation. At least one representative for each nomination is encouraged to attend the Awards Presentation.

Winners' details are subsequently published in available and appropriate media.

## How to submit

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Entrants are encouraged to provide sufficient evidence to fully answer the category criteria, please see the following pages for specific criteria for each category.

Each submission:

- Must be made via the [APSEA Awards website](#)
- Must address the criteria for the category entered
- Must include at least one representative image (min 300dpi / jpg)

### **Instructions for First-time users of the Awards System**

- *Click on the above link and create a user ID*
- *A confirmation will be sent to your email, click on the link to confirm your account (please check junk mail if confirmation email is not received)*
- *Login and lodge your application*

Applicants may login and change their submission up until the final submission date.

# Industry Awards Categories

1. Spatial Enablement
2. Innovation and Commercialisation
3. Technical Excellence
4. People and Community
5. Environment and Sustainability
6. Export

The points listed below, to the extent they are relevant, are to be used as a guide when writing a submission and supplementary materials. Nominees should provide sufficient evidence to substantiate any claims. References are desirable in all cases.

- You must provide an executive summary or a statement of excellence. You should clearly outline what the issue was that spatial solved. This will be used in marketing material (300 words)
- Further support or clarification of a criteria can be provided through an attached document.

Historically, winning submissions have included most or all of the following tactics:

- Use criteria fields effectively to provide novel insight or information about the project (not a cut and paste of other criteria)
- Are supported by client testimonial or peer review evidence
- Clearly identify the community or market segments who is directly benefiting from the initiative separately from those who are downstream beneficiaries
- Demonstrate potential as a new spatial sciences benchmark or exemplar
- Provide evidence of any claims of the newness of the project's contribution to the industry, either new markets, new products/technology development or application, new approaches to old problems, a new standard of operation
- Provide evidence of measurable benefit to the client/community or ROI
- Clear identification of the outcome that was not able to be delivered without the spatial technology and information.
- Highlight areas of ingenious adaptation of new or existing solutions, innovative application of emerging or developing technologies and the uniqueness of the project.
- Upload high resolution images related to the initiative - where possible, include images of beneficiaries engaging with the initiative
- Include a brief (30-60 second) video about the initiative - our experience is that we learn so much more about the initiative when we talk to the entrants, and hear them passionately describing elements of the initiative that didn't shine through in the submission

You are invited to contact the organisers for further guidance and advice in deciding which category to enter.

## Award for Spatial Enablement

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The Award for Spatial Enablement recognises products or projects in which the application of spatial information, methodology and/or tools has greatly improved the outcomes of a project, process or product.

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- **Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence** (300 words) This summary will appear on marketing documentation.
- **Project description:** This sets up the context of the project and helps judges to compare projects. Describe the timeframe of the project (is it a discrete project or part of a bigger program) relative size (eg FTEs, budget), a brief statement of complexity (multiple stakeholders, unusual constraints), funding source (private, CRC/research, other grant) (300 words)
- **Describe enablement in your context:** Discuss how the project showcases the application of spatial information and methodology and/or tools in a non-spatial market or project. (350 words)
- **Project Status:** Has the project been implemented and how is it likely to be utilised? (250 words)
- **Contribution to client:** Describe how the project has had an ongoing impact on the client, for example realising new technical, social, cultural, environmental and/ or economic benefits (600 words)

## Award for Innovation and Commercialisation

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The Award for Innovation and Commercialisation recognises products or projects that made a significant contribution to the industry through the introduction of a new idea, method, technology, process or application resulting in social, environmental and/or economic benefits.

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- **Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence:** This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (300 words)
- **Project description:** This sets up the context of the project and helps judges to compare projects. Describe the timeframe of the project (is it a discrete project or part of a bigger program) relative size (eg FTEs, budget), a brief statement of complexity (multiple stakeholders, unusual constraints), funding source (private, CRC/research, other grant) (300 words)
- **Innovation Claim:** Why did you need to innovate and what's unique about your innovation? Remember that some judges will not be spatial experts and will evaluate the project based on innovation they've seen in other industries. You might describe how your project showcases design of original solutions or ingenious adaptation of existing solutions such as innovative application of emerging or developing technologies (600 words)
- **Product market fit:** Demonstrate how the project meets a quantified market need, how the need has been validated and commercial viability including market take-up of the innovation Commercial viability including market take-up of the innovation. (500 words)
- **Market entry strategy:** Describe the rationale for the approach to market including overcoming barriers of entry to market. (350 words)
- **Contribution to Industry:** Describe how the project has had an ongoing impact on the industry or the community, for example realising new technical, social, cultural, environmental and/or economic benefits. (300 words)

## Award for Technical Excellence

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The Technical Excellence Award recognises products or projects that implemented spatial solutions to an exceptionally high technical standard, overcoming significant technical challenges, and delivering outstanding results for the client. In contrast with the Innovation and Commercialisation Award, this category focuses on excellence in applying existing technology and methodologies.

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- **Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence:** This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (300 words)
- **Project description:** This sets up the context of the project and helps judges to compare projects. Describe the timeframe of the project (is it a discrete project or part of a bigger program) relative size (eg FTEs, budget), a brief statement of complexity (multiple stakeholders, unusual constraints), funding source (private, CRC/research, other grant) (300 words)
- **Degree of technical methodology to overcome the challenge in delivering the solution.** (500 words) Describe the rationale for the methodology including overcoming barriers and managing risk.
- **Level of complexity of the challenge:** This sets the context for technical excellence – what are the technical skills and knowledge at play? Why is it such a big deal? Remember that some judges will not be spatial experts and will evaluate the project based on how “wicked” they perceive the problem to be. Complexity comes in many forms: scale, geographic location, quality of results, many interdependent tasks or resources. (250 words)

## Award for People and Community

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The People and Community Award recognises products or projects that make a difference to issues that affect communities via ‘grass roots’ initiatives and/or educational programs, services or tools that permit the widespread adoption, use, understanding and access to spatially enabled products or services.

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- **Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence:** This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (300 words)
- **Project description:** This sets up the context of the project and helps judges to compare projects. Describe the timeframe of the project (is it a discrete project or part of a bigger program) relative size (eg FTEs, budget), a brief statement of complexity (multiple stakeholders, unusual constraints), funding source (private, CRC/research, other grant) (300 words)
- **Grass-roots definition:** This sets the context for who is the end-user beneficiary and how the initiative represents widespread adoption of spatially enabled products or services. What makes it a “grass-roots” initiative? Examples might include initiatives that improve diversity, access. (200 words)
- **Demonstrated community acceptance:** Describe how the community has engaged with the initiative. Consider over what period of time the engagement occurred and whether the engagement was for primary use or further developments? (300 words)
- **Training, educational programs:** Describe how the grass-roots community has been supported using training, educational programs or tools to enable them to adopt the initiative (500 words)
- **Demonstrated benefit and/or contribution to the community:** Describe how the project has had an ongoing impact on the defined community, for example realising new technical, social, cultural, environmental and/or economic benefits (300 words).

## Award for Environment and Sustainability

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The Environment and Sustainability award recognises products and projects that help to resolve any issue in an environmental context.

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- **Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence:** This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (300 words)
- **Project description:** This sets up the context of the project and helps judges to compare projects. Describe the timeframe of the project (is it a discrete project or part of a bigger program) relative size (eg FTEs, budget), a brief statement of complexity (multiple stakeholders, unusual constraints), funding source (private, CRC/research, other grant) (300 words)
- **Benefit to the environment:** Describe why the project was undertaken, including the impact on natural resource management and effect on the balance of the environment. (300 words)
- **Methodology, verification and reporting:** Describe the rationale for the methodology, how the initiative has been validated and reported on. Describe any safety and structural or technical integrity considerations and the rationale for actions taken to address these. (500 words)
- **Contribution to the field:** Describe how your project showcases emerging or developing technologies or ideas as they are applied to enhancing environmental or sustainability outcomes (300 words)

## Award for Export

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The Export Award recognises products or projects that successfully and commercially apply specific spatial knowledge, products, and/or IP in an export market.

Judges will consider projects against the following specific criteria:

- **Executive Summary or Statement of Excellence:** This summary will appear on marketing documentation. (300 words)
- **Project description:** This sets up the context of the project and helps judges to compare projects. Describe the timeframe of the project (is it a discrete project or part of a bigger program) relative size (eg FTEs, budget), a brief statement of complexity (multiple stakeholders, unusual constraints), funding source (private, CRC/research, other grant) (300 words)
- **Export quotient:** Describe what you are exporting. For example, discuss the proportion of content (eg IP, resources, experience, data) that was developed locally, and/or in conjunction with the export market, or the use and application of technology, services or data within an export market (500 words)
- **Markets:** Describe the export markets actively entered into (countries and segments) (300 words).
- **Entry Strategy:** Describe the rationale for the approach to market including overcoming barriers of entry to market (300 words).

# SSSI Individual Awards categories

1. SSSI Professional of the Year (*Regional & National*)
2. SSSI Young Professional of the Year (*Regional & National*)
3. SSSI Women's Leadership Award (*Regional & National*)
4. SSSI Educational Development Award (*Regional & National*)
5. SSSI Postgraduate Student Award (*Regional & National*)
6. SSSI Undergraduate Student Award (*Regional & National*)
7. SSSI Special Achievement Award (*Regional Only*)
8. SSSI Service to the Qld Surveying and Spatial Sciences Community Award (*Queensland Only*)

Please note, nominees for the Professional of the Year and Young Professional of the Year must be current financial members of SSSI.

## SSSI Professional of the Year Award

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A SSSI member who is working in any of the disciplines of the surveying and spatial sciences whose professional achievements are acknowledged by peer citation as exemplifying the highest standards of excellence and ethical conduct.

- **Outstanding performance in their occupation:** focus on the achievements/performance of the nominee that are beyond the normal. For example, consider what makes the nominee outstanding in relation to their day-to-day business and/or how they may have changed the way their profession does business or solves problems (250-300 words).
- **Service to the surveying and spatial profession over a year or more:** Consideration should be given to committees that the nominee may have served on and representation roles. Examples could include development of standards and professional certification (250-300 words).
- **Held in highest respect by peers:** e.g. list any awards or commendations that the nominee may have received in recognition from their peers (250-300 words).
- **Made a lasting difference to the surveying and spatial profession by their leadership:** include professional initiatives that the nominee played a key role in that had far-reaching impacts and other leadership roles (250-300 words).
- **Contributed to continuing professional development:** include nominee's roles in continuing professional development events (organising and/or presenting at CPD events like conferences) and participation/attendance at CPD events (250 -300).

## SSSI Young Professional of the Year

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This award recognises a young SSSI member who has made significant contributions in the field of surveying and spatial science and acts as a role model for others in the industry.

- **Outstanding performance in their occupation:** focus on the achievements/performance of the nominee that are beyond the normal. For example, consider what makes the nominee outstanding in relation to their day-to-day business and/or how they may have changed the way their profession does business or solves problems (250-300 words).
- **Leadership:** Document examples where the nominee may have led a significant project, leadership roles in the workplace and leadership roles amongst surveying and spatial professionals (250-300 words).
- **Participation in professional sub-committees and groups:** Consideration should be given to committees that the nominee may have served on and representation roles. Examples could include involvement in the SSSI Young Professionals (250 words).
- **Contribution to significant projects:** include the actual role the nominee played in the project e.g., did they lead the project, contribute a specific component of technical expertise, liaise with client/stakeholder etc (250-300 words).
- **Ongoing continuing professional education:** include nominee's commitment to continuing professional development events e.g. list ongoing study, participation/attendance at CPD, and organisation/presentation of CPD events (250 words).
- **Under the age of 36** as at 31 December 2019 (under the age of 30 for NZ Spatial Excellence entries)

## SSSI Women's Leadership Award

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This award recognises women who have demonstrated a significant contribution to the spatial industry and have shown potential to achieve and deliver benefits to the profession. In addition, this award may also recognise any member of the spatial industry who has contributed to the advancement and career development of women in the spatial industry in a way that has had a positive and long-term impact.

- **Contribution to the profession:** provide information on the nominee's specific contribution to the profession for women, either as an expert (e.g. research, teaching, recognition, leadership, etc) and/or as a service to SSSI e.g. contribution to governance, event organisation, career development etc. (250-300 words).
- **Service to the surveying and spatial profession over a year or more:** Consideration should be given to committees that the nominee may have served on and representation roles. Examples could include development of standards and professional certification (250-300 words)
- **Has made a lasting difference to the surveying and spatial profession for women by their leadership:** include professional initiatives that the nominee played a key role in that had far-reaching impacts and other leadership roles (250-300 words).
- **Contribution to continuing professional development:** include nominee's roles in continuing professional development events (organising and/or presenting at CPD events like conferences) and participation/attendance at CPD events (250-300 words).

## SSSI Educational Development Award

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This award is conferred on practicing teachers, facilitators or academics who have substantially contributed, through teaching, research, publication or professional activities. It acknowledges leadership not only in empowering students in the use of technologies, but also in supporting other teachers to acquire knowledge and/or promote excellence for practising academics in the fields of surveying and spatial science.

- **Contribution to the education and learning of students or the community in the surveying and spatial sciences:** focus on the specific achievements/performance of the nominee that are beyond the normal. For example, consider what makes the nominee outstanding in relation to delivering surveying, spatial and related discipline education, including any special initiatives or projects they may have developed (250-300 words).
- **Contribution to the advancement and improvement of education in the surveying and spatial sciences:** consideration should be given to any surveying, spatial or related education committees that the nominee may have served on, representation roles and contribution to educational publications or programs or courses e.g. the linking of spatial professionals with teachers. Document examples where the nominee is involved in professional activities for example, certification, seminar or workshop organisation, conference organising committee role etc (250-400 words).
- **Significant leadership in an education role in the surveying and spatial sciences:** include any activity involving significant leadership such as supervision of postgraduate students; mentoring of other teaching academics; innovation in teaching, and highlight any awards received. Document examples of leadership of innovative research at any level. Include examples if any of specific research grants and collaborative research projects. Document/list examples of any leadership roles in major publications or community projects in any area of the surveying and spatial sciences (250-400 words).

## SSSI Postgraduate Student Award

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This award is conferred on a Postgraduate student\* who has undertaken a research project that contributes to the ongoing progression of the surveying and spatial profession.

*\* Students eligible to enter this award include PhD and Masters Research students.*

- **The quality and usefulness of the research and development:** Provide reasons why the project is being undertaken; the link to the surveying and spatial industry; and any broader impacts (150-200 words)
- **Relevance of the project to current issues and initiatives:** include significance and implication of the project for the surveying and spatial industry/science. Research and project topics may come from any aspect of the surveying and spatial sciences including social and environmental applications of GIS and other spatial technologies, remote sensing and digital image analysis, data capture, surveying and modelling, application and interface development, Web GIS development, and the development of algorithms and analytical techniques (150-200 words).
- **Demonstrated technical prowess:** description of technical processes and elements used as part of the project (150-200 words).
- **Quality of project design and implementation:** if the research has been assessed or peer reviewed, please include the assessed grade or comments here (150-200 words).
- **Engagement (desirable):** Contribution the nominee has made to the surveying and spatial profession (e.g. SSSI committees) and/or involvement in industry or social groups related to the profession (e.g. University Surveying Club, Regional User Group) (150 -200 words)
- **To be eligible,** the nominee must have completed the subject to which their research contributes no longer than 12 months prior to nomination or will complete it in the calendar year of the nomination.

## SSSI Undergraduate Student Award

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This award is conferred on a student\* who has undertaken a research project in the course of their studies that contributes to the ongoing progression of the surveying and spatial profession.

*\*Students eligible to enter this award include final year undergraduates and graduates including Honours, Graduate Certificate/Diploma, Vocational and Educational Training (e.g. TAFE, Polytechnics) and Masters by coursework.*

- **The quality and usefulness of the research project:** provide reasons why the project is being undertaken; the link to the surveying and spatial industry; and any broader impacts (150 -200 words).
- **Relevance of the project to current issues and initiatives:** include significance and implication of the project for the surveying and spatial industry/science. Research and project topics may come from any aspect of the surveying and spatial sciences including social and environmental applications of GIS and other spatial technologies, remote sensing and digital image analysis, data capture, surveying and modelling, application and interface development, Web GIS development, and the development of algorithms and analytical techniques (150 -200 words).
- **Demonstrated technical prowess in the project** Description of technical processes and elements used as part of the project (150 -200 words).
- **Quality of project design and implementation** If the project has already been assessed, please include the assessed grade here (150 -200 words).
- **Engagement (desirable):** Contribution the nominee has made to the surveying and spatial profession (e.g. SSSI committees) and/or involvement in industry or social groups related to the profession (e.g. University Surveying Club, Regional User Group) (150 -200 words).
- **To be eligible,** the nominee must have completed the subject to which their research contributes no longer than 12 months prior to nomination or will complete it in the calendar year of the nomination.

## SSSI Special Achievement Award

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This award is conferred on persons who have substantially contributed to both the industry and their community, while overcoming obstacles or particular challenges. This award differs from that of Professional of the Year or Service to the Industry in that it aims to recognise the broad range of roles undertaken by many individuals, such as spouse/partner, parent, chauffeur, chef, financial manager, housekeeper, nurse, sports coach, as well as being involved in community-based activities, etc. It recognises that many individuals face obstacles or challenges, such as having a disability, or having to take career breaks to raise families and/or care for family members, etc. The ability of nominees in contributing to the industry while juggling their family and community-based activities is an aspect of this award. It essentially recognises need for balance between work and the rest of life.

*\*\*This is a REGIONAL category only and winners of this award do not progress to the National/Oceanic Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards*

- **Contribution to the profession:** provide information on the nominee's specific contribution to the profession, either as an expert (e.g. research, teaching, recognition, leadership, etc) and/or as a service to SSSI (e.g. contribution to governance, event organisation, etc.) (150-200 words).
- **Obstacles that have been overcome:** provide information on any obstacles the nominee may have faced and had to overcome, for example through a disability, taking a career break, working in a difficult environment (150-200 words).
- **Contribution to extra-curricular, community-based activities:** outline additional activities the nominee participates in, particularly in relation to community-based activities for the overall benefit of society (150-200 words).
- **Personal circumstances:** briefly outline the nominee's relevant personal circumstances (e.g. primary carer for children, medical issue etc) (150-200 words).

## Service to the QLD Surveying and Spatial Sciences Community Award

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This award encourages and commends those persons who provide exemplary dedication, effort and service to the surveying and spatial community. The award is open to a SSSI member who has undertaken various tasks for some considerable time at either the Regional Committee level and/or at the Board Level and has demonstrated a high level of dedication, commitment and service.

*Note: This is a QUEENSLAND REGIONAL category only and winners of this award do not progress to the National/Oceanic Asia-Pacific Spatial Excellence Awards.*

- **Service on a SSSI QLD Committee or group:** in answering this criteria, focus on the nominee's specific contribution (roles and tasks) to SSSI Committees or groups. For example: Regional Committee; Certification Panel; Commission Committee; Board; or Special Interest Group such as YPs or Women in Spatial (250-300 words).
- **Leadership in a project:** document examples where the nominee may have led a significant project, such as a conference or initiative (250-300 words).
- **Representation of the spatial profession in any forum:** document examples where the nominee has represented the surveying and spatial profession in a forum (for example, media, cross industry groups, school initiatives) (250-300 words).
- **Service to the SSSI membership:** document examples where the nominee has provided added value in servicing the SSSI membership (for example, CPD coordination etc) (250-300 words).