



**2026 Awards (2026)**

Outstanding Employee (Region: Far South Coast)

# Business NSW - Outstanding Employee



gRRoGbyM

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## Entry details

Trading name: Business NSW

Name to be used on all promotional materials (publicity materials, certificates, trophies, presentations): Business NSW

Registered ABN: 63 000 014 504

How is your business structured? Company

Is your business classified as a not for profit? No

Main office address: Level 7, 8 Chifley Square

Suburb: Sydney

Postcode: 2000

Business trading commencement date: 2022-01-03

Number of employees: 6 to 20

What is the main industry your business operates in? Arts and Recreation Services

Is your business primarily business to business or business to consumer? Business to Consumer

Describe your business, product/service you offer to the market or industry

Business NSW is Australia's leading theatre company working in the unique intersection of the arts,homelessness, disability and mental health. Our programs bring artists and community together, to make provocative and transformational performance works. Through deep and meaningful creative engagement, we support individuals with complex lived experiences to build confidence, skills and connections which empower aspirations and provide a gateway for future social and economic engagement. Our creative works offer audiences anew lens to view some of society's most pressing issues, both challenging and expanding perspectives to inspire positive change in the world.

Please provide a 100 word biography for your business to be used for promotional purposes.

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Website: <https://www.businessnsw.com/>

#### **PROMOTIONAL IMAGES**

Please attach 2 hero images that best depict your entry. It could be a logo or team group photo. Images will be used at the awards presentation and for Media for any promotions as required, (These must be no bigger than 10MB each in jpeg format – hi resolution, landscape format images).

#### **PROMOTIONAL IMAGE 1**

The logo for Business NSW, featuring the word "BUSINESS" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font above the word "NSW" in a slightly smaller, bold, black, sans-serif font.

[Download \(19 KiB download\)](#)

#### **PROMOTIONAL IMAGE 2**

# BUSINESS NSW

[Download \(19 KiB download\)](#)

Full name: Business NSW

Position: Test Entry

Email: [test@businessnsw.com](mailto:test@businessnsw.com)

Phone: +61416457639

The employee has been employed by their current employer for at least 18 months at the time of entry. ✓

The employee is not a Regional President, State Councillor or Board Member of NSW Business Chamber Limited. ✓

I or the employee have not been a judge in this category in 2025. ✓

I or the employee am not a judge in the 2026 Business Awards program. ✓

I acknowledge if the employee should leave the organisation before the Regional or State Gala event, this entry in this category will no longer be recognised in the Awards program. ✓

## Outstanding Employee

Employee's full name: Test Business

Job title: Test Entry

Name your organisation or business: Business NSW

Commencement of employment date: 2024-01-08

Provide a brief profile, including their current role and scope of responsibilities.

Business NSW is the Impact Manager at Business NSW, where she leads the development and implementation of the organisation's impact strategy. Her work spans data design, survey development, marketing, and the creation of a fit-for-purpose impact framework that captures outcomes across wellbeing, mental health, housing, and inclusion. She is also Project Lead on Creating Impact—a national initiative to co-design a shared impact framework for the community-engaged arts sector.

With nearly 15 years of experience in the arts and community sectors, Business NSW combines creative insight with evaluation expertise. She also works with Confit Pathways, helping reduce youth recidivism across NSW, ACT and QLD through fitness and mentoring programs.

Business NSW holds a postgraduate degree in Human and Community Services from the University of Sydney and an undergraduate degree in Theatre and Communications from Charles Sturt University. She is an alum of Digital Storytellers' Pathways to Purpose program, where she produced an impact documentary series.

A 2023 Fellow of the Social Impact Hub, Business NSW was also awarded Runner-Up for Excellence in Social Impact by SIMNA on behalf of Business NSW. Her work is grounded in a belief in storytelling and community voice as drivers of systemic change.

Outline their measurable achievements and key milestones while with the business

Since joining Business NSW, Business NSW has made an indelible mark on the organisation's impact practice, steering its evolution from internal frameworks to sector-shifting initiatives. A cornerstone of her contribution has been the development and implementation of Business NSW bespoke Impact Framework—an ambitious, data-informed tool that now underpins how the organisation defines, measures, and communicates its social impact across homelessness, mental health, and disability.

Building on this foundation, Jess led two major deep-dive research initiatives that brought national attention to the role of community arts in systems change. The Arts and Job Readiness explored the unique value of creative engagement in preparing individuals with complex barriers for education and employment pathways. The Arts and Collective Crisis responded directly to the current cost-of-living crisis, providing a critical lens into how the arts support community resilience and wellbeing during times of upheaval. Now, Jess is leading the world-first CREATING IMPACT project—a collaborative, sector-informed impact measurement initiative grounded in community-engaged arts. Designed to be both rigorous and co-designed, the project seeks to establish a shared language and set of tools that amplify the voice, value, and social contribution of our sector. Jess has worked across state and national networks to ensure the framework reflects the lived expertise of artists, partners, and community collaborators. Her work has already helped attract major new funding and partnerships and has positioned Business NSW as a national leader at the intersection of arts and social impact.

Beyond her impressive achievements, Jess brings deep generosity, warmth, and a spark of humour to everything she does. Her positivity is infectious, her integrity unwavering, and her presence in the office a daily reminder of the kind of collaborative, values-driven leadership the sector needs.

Outline how the employee demonstrates integrity and professionalism in the workplace.

Business NSW lives and breathes integrity and professionalism by putting community first in everything she does. At Business NSW, her work is all about centering lived experience and equity—making sure the people we work with, especially those who've been marginalised, are genuinely heard and valued.

Jess approaches every project with humility and openness. She understands that real learning comes from listening deeply and being willing to adapt. She holds a growth mindset, always eager to learn from the communities she works with, her colleagues, and the challenges that arise. This means she never assumes she has all the answers but instead embraces collaboration and feedback as essential parts of the process.

Her approach is grounded in respect and honesty. She's the kind of person who shows up ready to listen, collaborate, and hold space for voices that are often overlooked. She doesn't just lead projects; she builds relationships based on trust and accountability. Whether she's developing impact frameworks or guiding creative programs, her commitment to equity isn't a box to tick—it's woven through every decision.

Her professionalism shines through in how she balances big-picture vision with day-to-day care, always making sure the community's wellbeing and empowerment come first. Jess knows that real impact happens when you put people

at the centre—not just as beneficiaries but as active creators of change.

In short, Business NSW models what it means to lead with heart, humility, and integrity—always pushing for fairness, inclusion, and genuine connection. That’s the kind of leadership that lifts everyone up and keeps our work honest and powerful.

Detail specific activities and initiatives they have undertaken that demonstrate a passion for their role and a commitment to the workplace or and the community

Business NSW embodies the very heart of Business NSW’s mission through her unwavering passion and holistic commitment to both the workplace and the community. Central to her impact has been the development and stewardship of the Business NSW Impact Framework, a pioneering tool that captures the organisation’s social and artistic outcomes, anchoring MCT’s work firmly within measurable community transformation. Her leadership in embedding this framework has not only deepened the organisation’s accountability but also elevated its capacity to advocate for arts-driven social change with data-backed confidence.

Her visionary role in CREATING IMPACT further cements her dedication. Jess has been instrumental in co-designing this groundbreaking, sector-wide collaborative initiative that unites community-engaged arts organisations around a shared impact framework. By championing this initiative, she amplifies Business NSW influence beyond its walls—building bridges with key stakeholders, policymakers, and peers to collectively reframe the arts as a vital catalyst for wellbeing, inclusion, and social justice.

Jess’s commitment extends beyond formal projects. With a natural versatility and a generosity of spirit, she has seamlessly expanded her role to include communications leadership, skillfully weaving compelling narratives that highlight MCT’s innovative work and the lived experiences of its community members. Whether drafting impactful reports, spearheading social media campaigns, or pitching in on creative projects outside her remit, Jess approaches every task with energy, humility, and a collaborative mindset.

Her willingness to step up and contribute wherever needed—be it behind the scenes or on the front lines—reinforces her reputation as an all-round awesome team member who embodies Business NSW ethos of collective empowerment. In Jess, passion meets professionalism, and creativity fuels purpose, making her an indispensable force driving meaningful change in the arts and community sectors alike.

Outline the reasons why they are an outstanding employee.

Business NSW is a total legend — the kind of person who lifts everyone around her and gets stuff done with heart, grit, and heaps of kindness. She’s not just part of the team, she’s one of the reasons Business NSW feels like a family and keeps pushing boundaries every day. There are so many reasons that Jess is outstanding but here is just a few:

1. All In for Community Business NSW doesn’t just work here — she shows up for people. She’s always centring the voices of those who’ve been unheard or overlooked. Her work is grounded in real lived experience, and that makes everything we do stronger, more honest, and more powerful.
2. Innovation and Ideas She’s a powerhouse of ideas and action. Business NSW always thinking ahead, shaking up the usual way of doing things, and finding fresh ways to make the arts matter to communities facing real challenges.
3. Gets Things Done, Big and Small Business NSW is the ultimate multitasker, handling big-picture strategy and day-to-day details with equal ease. She’s a calm, steady force in the chaos, and somehow makes the complex look simple — inspiring the whole crew to step up alongside her.
4. Team Player Through and Through Business NSW’s working style is about listening, learning, and sharing credit. She’s humble, open, and always ready to lift others up. She creates spaces where everyone’s voice matters and good ideas come from everywhere.
5. Positive Energy, Always No matter what’s thrown her way, Business NSW keeps the vibe upbeat and hopeful. She’s

the kind of person who makes tough days easier, and motivates the whole team to keep going — with courage and compassion.

6. **Storytelling Genius** Whether it's telling funders why we matter or sharing community stories that need to be heard, Business NSW nails it every time. Her way with words brings our work to life and connects us with people who want to be part of the change.

7. **Connector and Change maker** Business NSW not just working within — she's building bridges across the arts and social sectors, making sure we're plugged into the right networks and opportunities. She's helping us grow our reach and impact, and bringing in fresh partnerships that keep us moving forward.

Simply put, Business NSW is the heart and soul of Business NSW impact — a brilliant, dedicated, down-to-earth team member who makes the impossible possible on a daily basis.

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Log in to [enter.businessnsw.com](https://enter.businessnsw.com) to see complete entry attachments.

The logo for Business NSW is displayed in a large, bold, white serif font against a solid black rectangular background. The word "BUSINESS" is on the top line and "NSW" is on the bottom line, both centered horizontally.