



## Camden Business Awards 2017 - Notes for applicants

### Background to the Awards

The Camden Business Awards celebrate the success of Camden businesses and recognise their contribution to local recruitment, local communities, environmental sustainability and the built environment.

The awards are a unique opportunity for organisations to gain recognition for their achievements and receive positive endorsement from Camden Council and the [Camden Business Board](#).

The winners will be presented with their award at a high profile awards ceremony to be held on the 30 November at 30 Euston Square.

### How to Apply

Please complete the Camden Business Awards application form available from: [www.camden.gov.uk/businessawards](http://www.camden.gov.uk/businessawards)

The closing date for applications is: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Organisations can be entered for more than one award, but a separate registration will be required for each award entered.

An organisation can only enter one application for each category.

Businesses are required to self-nominate only.

### Terms and Conditions

1. The awards are open to all businesses based in the London Borough of Camden including:

- Sole trader
- A private or public limited company
- Partnership or limited liability partnership
- Charities and community interest companies
- Social enterprises and not-for-profit companies

2. The awards are for such organisations that have displayed the award winning characteristics themselves.

3. By applying for an award organisations are confirming the following:

- They are based within the London Borough of Camden<sup>1</sup>
- They are not applying for an award which they are sponsoring
- They have declared any existing relationship that they have with the Council or judges

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<sup>1</sup> External contractors based outside Camden will be eligible for the 'Outstanding Design Award' award

- They are not in arrears to the Council for business rates or other relevant fees
  - They are not subject to a winding up order or CCJ or similar
  - They are not currently subject to a licencing enforcement action
4. That if they win, or submit a particularly outstanding application, they will allow Camden Council to produce a case study and make this study available to other organisations within Camden.
  5. They will not question the decisions made by the Judges which are final.
  6. They will send a representative to receive their prize at the awards ceremony.
  7. They will allow a photographer to take images of the award presentation to use in marketing and press and on the Camden Council websites.
  8. The information they provide in their application is a true and honest account of the work undertaken by their organisation. If information is found to be untrue, the organisation risks the revoke of any award.

### **Criteria for individual Awards**

Individual awards will be judged against the criteria set out below. Judges of all awards will favour applicants that demonstrate a commitment to supporting the local community and/or improving the environment.

For the purposes of these awards, consistent business growth is defined as enterprises sustaining increased employment, revenue and investment

Applicants are encouraged to include testimonials to support their applications

#### **1) Employer of the Year**

This award is open to all Camden-based businesses regardless of size or sector that demonstrate excellence and best practice in one or more of the following areas:

- \*Flexible and/or family friendly working policies and environment
- \*London Living Wage
- Offering apprenticeships to Camden residents
- Offering work experience opportunities for local school children and/or unemployed residents
- Commitment to local recruitment
- Commitment to investing in diversity, skills and well-being of employees

*\* As a Timewise Council and Living Wage Employer, Camden encourages local businesses to offer the London Living Wage and quality flexible working opportunities. Additional weighting will be given to entries displaying one or both of these policies.*

*Should you be shortlisted for Employer of the Year, you may be asked to provide an employee case study based on your flexible working policies*

## **2) Young Entrepreneur of the Year**

This award is open to all Camden business owners aged 30 years or younger who have launched their business in the last 3 years and can demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

Personal drive and determination, overcoming obstacles to make their business idea a reality

Developed innovative ideas (e.g. creating 'disruptive technology'), with a business model that is clear and sustainable

Consistent business growth

## **3) Small Business of the Year**

This award is open to all Camden businesses with 50 or fewer employees that demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

Excellent business practice

Excellent customer service

Offered an innovative service or product

Consistent business growth in the last 2 years

## **4) Knowledge Partnership of the Year**

This award is open to Camden businesses who have developed innovative partnerships with the education sector to promote careers in the creative, digital and scientific growth sectors that make up Camden's thriving knowledge economy.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Evidence of building strategic partnerships between business activities and education providers

- Development of a service or product improving careers education or opportunities for young people

- Targeted work to raise aspirations and support young people from underrepresented groups, with evidence of outcomes

*\*In 2016, Camden launched a STEAM Commission enable all Camden young people to access opportunities in the creative, digital and scientific industries. This award takes forward the recommendation to build stronger relationships between business and education providers*

## **5) Outstanding Contribution to the Community**

This award is open to all Camden businesses that have evidenced their Corporate Social Responsibility commitment through a project or activity which has brought measurable benefits to the Camden community. Activities could include volunteering, mentoring, work with local schools, pro-bono work or anything else that has had a direct impact on the local community.

Applicants will need to demonstrate:

Evidence of partnership working

Evidence of tackling a social issue

The wider impact that the project/activity has had on the local community

## **6) Best Start Up Business**

This award is open to Camden businesses that have launched their business in the last 3 years and can demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:

- Excellent business practice and customer service
- Consistent business growth
- Championing and demonstrating ethical business practices
- Effective plan to sustain growth and develop the business

## **7) Innovative Business of the Year**

This award is open to all Camden businesses who can demonstrate innovation in services and products that have driven business success. Applicants should be able to demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Created competitive advantage
- Transformed the organisation or wider industry
- Increased market share or customer loyalty

## **Sustainability Awards**

The following awards recognise successful examples of sustainability leadership in Camden. They celebrate projects and behaviour that demonstrate strong environmental credentials and a commitment to sustainability.

These awards will be collated from the [Camden Climate Change Alliance Awards](#) which took place in April 2017, showcasing the most successful examples emerging in Camden.

## **8) Excellence in Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction**

This award recognises excellence and best practice in businesses that manage their energy consumption and reduce their carbon emissions.

## **9) Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Sustainability**

This award recognises outstanding contributions to local environmental sustainability.

## **Built Environment Awards**

The following award focuses on design and construction in Camden. It aims to reward schemes that demonstrate high quality design in the creativity of their approach and standard of their finish, as well as meeting the needs of Camden's residents, businesses and visitors.

The award will be collated from the [Camden Design Awards](#). Nominations should be submitted through the Camden Design Awards which includes details on entry requirements and how to submit.

## **10) Outstanding Design Award**

This award recognises an exceptional example of local design and construction

## **Judging**

The awards will be judged by panels made up of representatives from the Council, businesses and experts with relevant specialist knowledge.

Following the submission deadline, the council will shortlist applications for consideration by the judging panels. Each judging panel will meet once to consider the shortlisted entries for individual awards.

Judging panels will select a winner for each award. Judging panels can also award a runner up for each award and highly commend other applicants as appropriate.

Each application will be judged on its individual merits and claims within the application should be backed up with supporting evidence where possible.

## **Sources of Further Support**

The following information and support is available to businesses who want to improve their performance in the below areas.

Carbon reduction and environmental emissions: [www.camdencca.org](http://www.camdencca.org)

Flexible and/or family-friendly working policies: [www.timewise.co.uk](http://www.timewise.co.uk)

Apprenticeship opportunities in Camden: [www.camden.gov.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.camden.gov.uk/apprenticeships)

London Living Wage: [www.livingwage.org.uk](http://www.livingwage.org.uk)

[Health and employment support](#)

[Corporate Social Responsibility](#)