

# INSPIRING CITY AWARDS 2026



The Herald

GLASGOW  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# ENTRY GUIDE

@newsquestscotlandevents @theheraldscotland @glasgow\_chamber #inspiringcity26

**ENTRY  
DEADLINE  
TUESDAY,  
JULY 28**

PARTNERED WITH

GLASGOW  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Herald

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# WELCOME



**The Herald and Glasgow Chamber of Commerce are proud to join forces once again to deliver the Inspiring City Awards.**

This prestigious event is designed to celebrate the city and people of Glasgow, offering an opportunity to spotlight the exceptional legacy and innovative spirit that define our city.

The evening will include dinner, entertainment, official event programme, networking, and the awards presentation.

Entries close Tuesday, July 28 at 6pm, with winners celebrated at a prestigious ceremony in Glasgow on Thursday, September 17, 2026.

## ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

### THE INSPIRING CITY AWARDS ENTRY GUIDE 2026

We are committed to making our information accessible to everyone. The Inspiring City Awards Entry Guide 2026 is currently provided as a designed PDF. While this format is visually engaging, it may not fully meet the needs of people using screen readers, text-to-speech software, or other assistive technologies, as it does not yet meet all UK Association for Accessible Formats (UKAAF) standards for accessible PDFs. To ensure equal access, an accessible alternative version of this guide is available in Word format. This version is structured for assistive technologies and can be adapted to suit individual needs. If you require this information in another format, or need further support to enter the awards, please contact Charlotte Jebson at [charlotte.jebson@newsquest.co.uk](mailto:charlotte.jebson@newsquest.co.uk) and we will be happy to help.

### THE INSPIRING CITY AWARDS ENTRY FORM 2026

You can find the online entry form [here](#) and on our website. If you would prefer to use a word document version of the entry form, please contact Charlotte Jebson at [charlotte.jebson@newsquest.co.uk](mailto:charlotte.jebson@newsquest.co.uk) with the category you would like to enter.

# WELCOME

# ENTRANT CHECKLIST



This guide has been designed to make entering the awards as clear, simple and accessible as possible.

Before submitting your entry, make sure you have:

Chosen the most relevant category or categories.

Completed all required fields, including organisation and contact details.

Answered each question clearly and addressed the category criteria.

Explained the challenge or opportunity, your approach, and the outcome you wanted to achieve.

Shown evidence of collaboration, impact, inclusion, sustainability, and plain-language communication.

Included context for any data, plus supporting evidence such as testimonials, case studies, or images.

Confirmed all information is accurate.

## SUGGESTED NARRATIVE FLOW

Award-winning entries follow:

**Challenge** → **Approach** → **Outcome** → **Impact**.

# CATEGORIES

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT CATEGORY

### ART & CULTURE AWARD

This category will reward an individual/organisation that has enhanced the reputation of Glasgow's cultural ambitions. This category will embrace all art forms, including visual arts, music, theatre, architecture, literature, or cultural events. Judges will be looking for individuals or organisations whose cultural achievements have not only celebrated creativity but also successfully showcased Glasgow as a vibrant and engaged cultural hub.

### COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

*sponsored by Allied Vehicles*

Celebrating initiatives that have substantially improved quality of life, community cohesion, or social equity in Glasgow. Judges will be looking for initiatives that have delivered tangible benefits, empowered communities, and demonstrated a strong commitment to building a fairer and more connected Glasgow.

### ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD

This award will recognise businesses or initiatives that have significantly contributed to Glasgow's economic growth and development. Judges will examine how an innovation or business concept has been developed and applied to deliver economic growth throughout the city.

### ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

This award will recognise an outstanding contribution to enhance Glasgow's environment and/or combating climate change across the city, helping to address the Glasgow Pacts agreed by global leaders when the city hosted COP26. Judges will be looking for organisations or individuals demonstrating leadership, innovation, and measurable success in advancing environmental sustainability in Glasgow.


### HERITAGE CHAMPION AWARD

Honouring projects or individuals that have played a significant role in preserving Glasgow's rich history and heritage. Judges will be looking for those who have demonstrated passion, dedication, and tangible success in safeguarding Glasgow's unique historical legacy.

### OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION BY A BUSINESS LEADER

*Sponsored by Virgin Money*

This award will recognise an individual at the forefront of business who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and commitment to Glasgow. Judges will look for someone who inspires others through their contribution with exceptional commitment, motivation, effort and vision.

 [uk.virginmoney.com](http://uk.virginmoney.com)

### SPORT AWARD

To recognise an outstanding achievement that has fostered the development of sport in the city. They may have inspired others to become more active, been a role model or helped secure facilities and funding. Judges will be looking for individuals or organisations that have used sport as a force for good—empowering communities, encouraging active lifestyles, and strengthening Glasgow's sporting culture.

### YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT AWARD

Awarding initiatives specifically designed to engage and empower the youth of Glasgow, ensuring they are equipped to shape the future of the city.

# GALLERY



# GALLERY

# WHAT NEXT?



All entries are independently reviewed by the judging panel.

If shortlisted, you will be contacted by the events team mid-late August, and information will be provided on attending the awards night.

The Awards evening will be held on **Thursday, 17 September** at the **Marriott Hotel in Glasgow.**

The event is ticketed and more information can be found [here](#)

# NEED HELP?

If you have questions or would like support before entering, please contact the awards team.

The Herald/ Newsquest Events Scotland & NI team

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We're here to help you submit your best possible entry.

If you're making a positive difference, we want to hear about it – regardless of your size, sector or stage of journey!

# NEED HELP