



# SEYH Awards 2023

## Awards Guidelines

Please read this document before completing an Award application.



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# Award Categories

- 1) **Small Social Enterprise of the Year** (*turnover **under** £200,000 per annum*)
- 2) **Large Social Enterprise of the Year** (*turnover **over** £200,000 per annum*)

This award recognises organisations who have demonstrated an outstanding track record of delivery, growth, and innovation.

Criteria :

- a) High standards of strategic management and leadership
- b) High levels of customer/beneficiary satisfaction
- c) Evidence of developing people within the organisation
- d) Demonstratable success in terms of meeting aims and objectives
- e) Demonstratable impact within the community resulting in positive social or environmental results
- f) Demonstratable sustainability in financial, social, and environmental terms
- g) Strong track record in terms of communicating with stakeholders
- h) Strong track record in terms of working with other social enterprise

We have split this category into two separate awards as we realise that the larger social enterprises have more experience of meeting the criteria and we wanted to give smaller organisations a better opportunity to compete.



### 3) Social Entrepreneur of the Year

This award is open to individuals working within a social enterprise/s who can demonstrate excellence within the social enterprise sector.

Criteria :

- a) Represents excellence within their field
- b) Demonstrates values of equality, diversity and inclusivity
- c) Inspire others to achieve their full potential
- d) Evidence of celebrating, enhancing and improving the social enterprise sector

We're looking for someone who has created significant positive change for society by demonstrating socially entrepreneurial behaviours, beyond the day-to-day expectations of any job that they may have, to tackle any social and/or environmental issue. We're also looking for someone who has helped strengthen the voice, raise the debate, or shine a spotlight on what the social enterprise movement is achieving either nationally, within a sector or industry or within a sphere of influence.



#### **4) Environmental Award**

This award is open to social enterprises operating in the environmental sector for more than 2 years and can demonstrate a solid commitment to improving the planet.

Criteria :

- a) Clear vision and strategy
- b) Problem solving approach
- c) Evidence of overcoming challenges
- d) Strong potential for future success
- e) Clear evidence of environmental impact

We are looking for social enterprises that have built a sustainable model around supporting and improving the planet. This could be in a number of ways as long as they can prove that the impact on the environment is positive.



## 5) Social Impact Award

This award is open to social enterprises that are able to clearly demonstrate, evidence and communicate their social impact with their stakeholders.

Criteria :

- a) Evidenced community impact in line with their aims and objectives
- b) Excellent measurement and reporting processes
- c) Use of varies evidence types, such as (but not limited to) interviews, focus groups and surveys
- d) Evidenced stakeholder engagement
- e) Proof of effective evaluation and process review mechanisms, including evidence of incorporating such findings into future operations

We are looking for social enterprises that clearly engage with all stakeholders and are transparent and honest in their findings whether these are of a positive or negative impact and are continuously working to improve their processes and social impact.



## 6) Social Investment Award

This award is for social enterprises who have been successful in securing social investment within the last 18 months to expand their social/environmental impact. Please note both the social investor and the recipient of the social investment will be recognised.

Criteria :

- a) Demonstratable assessment of initial need, problem or cause
- b) Explanation of method used to apply for or secure funding
- c) Financial information about how the deal was funded.
- d) Discussion of impact of the investment to the community, whether expected or realised
- e) Discussion of what future plans the organisation has

You will be asked to provide contact information for the partner organisation involved in your investment deal. For example, if your organisation received investment, please provide details for someone from the organisation who made the investment, or vice versa, if you are from the investor then please provide details for someone in the organisation who received your investment.

- Deal partner contact name
- Deal partner organisation
- Deal partner email address



## 7) Start Up Award

This award is open to social enterprises which have been operating for less than two years as of August 2023, and which have a plan to develop their business with a clear vision and growth model.

Criteria :

- a) Clear vision and strategy
- b) Demonstrates problem solving approach
- c) Evidence of overcoming challenges
- d) Strong potential for future success

We are looking to find the exciting new start ups in the sector who have a strong vision and strategy in place and clearly know where they are going and have the tools in place to get there.





## **8) Innovative Use of Tech Award**

Please note this has replaced our previous Tech 4 Good award. This is open to social enterprises that have been operating for more than 2 years and uses new technology to develop new products or services and/or uses new technology in core business model to enhance service delivery.

Criteria :

- a) Evidence of identifying and addressing a specific problem
- b) Evidence of a unique and creative technological solution
- c) Proof of positive impact
- d) Can demonstrate customer/stakeholder satisfaction
- e) Sustainable business model

This award has been changed so that it can cover any sort of technological solution that has been brought in to improve efficiencies, impact and benefits for the whole social enterprise.



## 2 | Eligibility and Criteria

### Eligibility

All categories are open to nominations from Social Enterprises operating in the Yorkshire and Humber area, with exception of the Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award which is open to an individual working within a Social Enterprise/s in the Yorkshire and Humber area.

For the purposes of these awards, a Social Enterprise is defined as a business which;

- a. has a clear social or environmental mission which is set out in its governing documents, and
- b. is an independent business which earns income through trading, and
- c. is controlled or owned in the interests of the social mission, and
- d. either reinvests or gives away profits or surpluses to further its social purpose, and
- e. is transparent about how it operates and the impact it has.

If you have won a category in the past two years (at either the 2022 or 2021 SEYH Awards) **you will not be shortlisted**. Please do not apply for a category you have recently won. Please note that the Innovative Use of Technology Awards replaces the Tech 4 Good Award.



### 3 | Application Process

#### Key Dates

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023** | SEYH Social Enterprise Awards **applications close**.

**January 2024** | Shortlisted organisations notified.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024** | SEYH Social Enterprise Awards ceremony.

#### How to apply

Complete the online application form and provide the requested supporting documentation. Please note, you will need to complete all mandatory fields marked with an \* in each section before being able to move on to the next section of the application form.

To help you prepare, you will be required to provide the following, unless stated otherwise:

#### Organisation Information

- Organisation Name
- Registered Company Address
- Registered Company / Charity Number
- Legal Form
- Date Registered
- Date Started Trading (i.e. first transaction)
- Number of full-time employees?
- Number of part-time employees?
- Number of volunteers?
- Number of directors?
- Website
- Social media details where applicable

#### Financial Information

You will be asked to provide the following financial information for the years 2022-2023 and 2021-2022.

- Trading income
- Non-trading income
- Total income



## Specific Award Category Information

Each category will have boxes that have an approximate word limit due to the application from being a google doc form and this is the way their word count works. All approx. word limits are linked to characters as below and includes spaces and punctuation: -

- 100 words – 600 characters
- 150 words – 1,000 characters
- 200 words – 1,250 characters
- 250 words – 1,750 characters

Each category will ask you to provide a description of your social enterprise written in the third person, except for the Social Entrepreneur category where it will ask for the description of the social entrepreneur. This is asked for in the third person so that we can use it in publicising the awards if you are successful as a finalist.

You will be asked to provide information and evidence to substantiate your submission for each category you are entering. Refer to the specific Award Category Criteria to formulate your response. Please pay attention to the approx. word limit as specified above.

**The Evidence** | Provide evidence to substantiate the award nomination. Refer to the specific Award criteria in the Awards Guidelines

## Supporting Documents Required

### Logo

Please provide a high res copy of your logo

### Management Accounts

All organisations will need to provide their most recent set of management accounts (including a profit/loss account and balance sheet). The accounts are required to confirm that your enterprise meets the initial eligibility requirements. Your accounts need to clearly demonstrate that:

- The organisation earns at least 50% of its income through trading\*
- The organisation reinvests or gives away at least half of the profits or surpluses towards its social purpose.

*\*We recognise that organisations are still recovering from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and that there may be a higher than usual proportion of income through grants and loans. We intend to be inclusive wherever possible as long as you can demonstrate how you intend to return to/reach majority of income from trading.*



### Governing Documents

The governing documents are required to confirm that your enterprise meets the initial eligibility requirements. Your governing documents need to clearly demonstrate that the business:

- Has a clear social or environmental mission that is set out in its governing documents.
- Is an independent business.
- Is controlled or owned in the interests of the social mission.

### Supporting Photos | Optional

You will have the option to upload **up to five photos** to support your application (10MB maximum for each file). Please ensure these are labelled specifically so that we know which part of your application the photo supports.

### Any questions?

If you have any questions or queries about the Awards, please email Ali on [ali.ward@seyh.org.uk](mailto:ali.ward@seyh.org.uk)