

## **South Holland Business Awards 2022 Judging Criteria**

### **1. Business of the Year**

This award will go to the business that has not only increased its own profitability and potential but has also had a positive impact on the economy of the region as a whole. The size and age of such an enterprise will be considered against financial performance. The judges will also be interested in innovative new products, services or processes and expansion into new markets and areas of business activity.

***Turnover must exceed £300,001 in the year under consideration.***

Entries should demonstrate the following:

- Background to your business / organisation
- Details of your success (financial performance, markets, productivity, organisational)
- Strategy for growth
- Commitment to your local area
- Commitment to sustainable practices and Net Zero
- Commitment to wellbeing of people

### **2. Business Person of the Year**

This award recognises the business personality who best represents achievement and longevity. The award acknowledges the winner's sustained achievements within the business community during a distinguished career within the South Holland District Area.

Eligible business owners are those who have been actively involved in the business community and have demonstrated the following criteria:

- Has shown outstanding leadership characteristics
- Show exemplary business achievement
- Has demonstrated a strong connection to the economy and communities of South Holland District Council
- Association with community groups/ charitable organisations
- Industry influence and entrepreneurial success

### **3. Business Innovation of the Year**

This award will go to the company that has introduced a new product or process, invention, idea or design that has made a significant contribution to the business. The judges will be interested in innovation that has improved an existing product or process, but equally they would wish to hear about innovation that has led to the development of new products or services. They will also be interested in how innovation is handled within the culture of the company.



Entries should demonstrate the following:

- Background to your business / organisation
- Details your innovation
- The benefits
- Your achievements and successes

#### **4. Excellence in Customer Care**

This award will be made to the company that demonstrates a commitment to continuously improving its standards of customer care.

Judges will expect to see a clear, well-implemented customer care policy and examples of service exceeding customer expectations. They will also wish to hear how customer care initiatives contribute to the overall success of the business.

Entries should demonstrate the following:

- Background to your business / organisation
- Details of your customer care policy
- Your achievements and successes
- The benefits

#### **5. Food, Drink & Farming Business of the Year**

This award will go to a Food, Drink or Farming business which shows real commitment to local Food, Drink and Farming. Judges will take into account use of local produce, local suppliers, innovative products and services.

Entries should demonstrate the following:

- Background to your business / organisation
- Details of your success (financial performance, markets, productivity, organisational)
- Commitment to your local area (locally sourced products/services)
- Ambassador and advocate of the local food, drink and farming industry
- Examples of sustainability

#### **6. Small Business of the Year**

This award will go to the business that has increased its profitability and potential over the last financial year. The size and age of such an enterprise will be considered against financial performance (can include start-up businesses). The judges will also be interested in innovative new products, services or processes and expansion into new markets and areas of business activity. In addition the judges will wish to hear about the 'personality' of the business.

***Turnover must not exceed £300,000 in the year under consideration.***

Entries should demonstrate the following:

- Background to your business / organisation
- Details of your success (financial performance, markets, productivity, organisational)



- Commitment to your local area
- Commitment to sustainable practices and Net Zero
- Commitment to wellbeing of people

## **7. Supporting the Community**

This award is open to companies, organisations and social enterprises. It is intended to recognise organisations which are making a contribution to the community in which they operate.

In the case of commercial firms, the initiative could be in addition to their main business activity, or part of core activities, as long as there is a significant element of community benefit.

In terms of social enterprise, the organisation will demonstrate the achievement of social aims through its core trading activity and the judges will look for a genuine social enterprise with a strong enterprise ethic coupled with a clear commitment to the wider community.

The project or initiative should have been introduced or reached a meaningful stage within the last twelve months

Entries should demonstrate the following:

- Background to your business / organisation
- Details of your initiative
- Benefits to the community
- Helped get people involved and inspired others

## **8. Young Achiever of the Year (up to the age of 30)**

The awards will showcase and celebrate the achievements of those learners who have exceeded expectations and shown a dynamic approach to training. They will also have demonstrated initiative and enterprise, innovation and creativity, and shown an understanding of, and commitment to, the improvement of skills development.

Entries should demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Proven commitment by an apprentice to continued personal development
- An apprentice who has contributed significantly to the business and provided added value
- An apprentice who has demonstrated a high level of skills and/or has contributed significantly to the sector within which they work
- Evidence of commitment and ambition to succeed in their chosen field

*Apprentices should currently be on a programme or have completed a formal apprenticeship within the past 2 years. The judges may require sight of certificates which will be requested where appropriate.*