

PLANNING AWARDS 2025



ENTRY KIT

Enter online: planningawards.com

WHY ENTER THE PLANNING AWARDS?

- Review and record your achievements
- Get the recognition your work deserves
- Raise your profile
- Motivate your team
- Have your work judged and benchmarked by leading professionals
- Gain fantastic PR and marketing opportunities
- Bring your team to the networking and celebration event of the year as contenders

GENERAL ENTRY RULES AND INFORMATION

Entry is open to any individual, organisation or partnership involved in professional planning work, or related activities such as placemaking, regeneration, urban design and economic development. Entries are welcomed from the public, private or voluntary/community sector, anywhere in the UK.

If you require more information, please contact Nanette: nanette.adjei@haymarket.com | +44 (0)7342 084 824

ELIGIBILITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

All entries must relate to work either carried out or completed since 1 January 2023. You should make clear in the entry when the work described took place, so that the judges can satisfy themselves that it took place within the eligible period. Please do not discuss in your entry any work that took place before 1 January 2022, unless you can demonstrate that it was part of a project that was completed on or after that date.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Please complete our short online form to make your submission at www.planningawards.com. It will ask for:

- Name of plan, project, initiative, team, organisation or individual being entered
- Name of organisation submitting entry
- Answers to a maximum of four questions related to each category's criteria (see more information below)
- 100 words summarising the nature of the work being entered, and why it deserves an award
- If the entry is related to a single project, explanation of what planning stage it is at (eg pre-submission of application, application submitted, outline permission granted, full permission granted, completed (ie built)
- At least one good quality image to illustrate the entry
- Please credit the companies that have contributed to this project in a way that makes it deserve an award in this category in priority order, i.e. the first holding the most weight (maximum 5). Should your entry appear on screen the first three credits are guaranteed to appear on screen and the remaining two may need to appear in the script and voice over at the ceremony and awards written coverage.

SUPPORT MATERIAL

Visual material (excluding videos): You need to supply a minimum of one good quality image (see note below regarding photos) to illustrate your entry.

Additionally, you have the option of a) providing additional photos (up to a maximum of five images) and b) the equivalent of two A4 pages of additional visual support material.

Please supply all photographs in digital form, in JPEG format (300 dpi minimum). Please provide brief captions for each photo to explain a) what it shows and b) (if applicable) how it demonstrates the attributes of the work you are entering. For the planning law firm of the year, planning consultancy of the year and local authority planning team of the year categories, we would encourage you to provide photographs of the team involved, or some of the staff in it.

Written material: You can also, if you wish, support statements made in your submission with other written material, such as: performance figures; excerpts from evaluations, inspection reports, press cuttings; or testimonials. This must be limited to the equivalent of three single sided sheets of A4

Please be aware that the supporting materials' key messages (the points that you feel have the most bearing on why your entry should win an award) will need to be concisely summarised in the main submission, allowing the judges to refer to the supporting material if they want more detail.

Videos: If you have video footage or a case study you would like to include in your submission, please host the content on Vimeo or YouTube and include the link within the relevant field on the online form.

KEY DATES

Early Bird entry deadline date: Thursday 12 December 2024

Standard deadline date: Thursday 30 January 2025

ENTRY FEES

£395 +VAT for entries received by 12 December 2024

£495 +VAT for entries received by 30 January 2025

THE CRITERIA

Each category will have 2 to 4 questions designed specifically for that category. Be sure to read the category descriptions in detail (see below) to understand what the judges will be keeping an eye out for in the submissions and to prepare you for what will be asked. Make sure your project meets the criteria, and you can see what the category specific questions are by registering to enter online at www.planningawards.com

NOTE: Payment is not required at the Registration stage, only at the Submission stage.

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PLANNING
AWARDS 2025

PLANNING CATEGORIES

These categories reward excellence specifically in professional planning activity.

AWARD FOR PLANNING FOR INCREASED HOUSING DELIVERY

This award will go to the team or project that can most clearly demonstrate how its professional planning work has helped to increase delivery or likely delivery of planned-for homes that have improved or are likely to improve the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of a community.

Among the kinds of work that judges will be looking for will be: approaches to seeking or granting of site allocation that maximise the chances of planned-for, good quality new homes being promptly delivered; approaches to seeking or granting of planning permission that maximise the chances of planned-for, good quality new homes being promptly delivered; planning work that seeks to help new or smaller players in housing provision (such as small building firms, purpose-built private rented sector developers, local authorities and others) to contribute more to housing delivery; planning work that seeks to help the use of new construction techniques that enable faster delivery (such as modular construction) and planning work that seeks to de-risk delivery for providers through land assembly and other measures.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR PLANNING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

This award will go to the team or project that can most clearly demonstrate how its professional planning work has helped to increase provision for below market cost housing that has improved or is likely to improve the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of a community. Such housing could include: social rented housing, affordable rented housing, discounted market housing and intermediate housing for sale or rent.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR PLANNING FOR THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

This award will go to the team, plan or project that the judges feel most clearly demonstrates how professional planning work has been used to improve or protect the natural environment, or create the likelihood of it being improved or protected.

AWARD FOR USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN PLANNING

This award will go to the team, plan or project that the judges believe is the most outstanding example of how digital technology has been used by professional planners to improve the functioning of the planning system or maintain its

effectiveness in challenging circumstances.

PLANNING LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

This award will go to the law firm that can most clearly demonstrate how one or more elements of its planning legal work has/have enabled clients to have a positive impact - or a likely positive impact - on the physical or environmental quality of a place or places and/or the economic or social well-being of a community or communities.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR PLANNING CONSULTANCY OF THE YEAR

This award will go to a consultancy that can most clearly demonstrate how one or more elements of its planning work has/have helped clients to have a positive impact - or a likely positive impact - on the physical or environmental quality of a place or places and/or the economic or social well-being of a community or communities.

Where an entry comprises work on a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission for the entry to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR PLAN-MAKING

This award will go to the entry that best demonstrates how a masterplan, neighbourhood plan, local development plan or sub-regional plan has had, or is likely to have, a positive impact on the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of its community. For the purposes of this award, we define masterplans as plans for an area of development or regeneration which could be, but need not necessarily be, part of a development plan document.

PLANNING CATEGORIES (CONTINUED)

AWARD FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

The award will go to the professional planning team (or individual planning professional) that can most clearly demonstrate how their excellence in infrastructure planning (such as planning for transport, waste, energy, water, education or health) has led or is likely to lead to improvements in the physical or environmental quality of a place or places and/or the economic or social wellbeing of a community or communities. (Entry to this category is restricted to professional planners – entrants who wish to seek recognition for outstanding legal work on infrastructure planning are encouraged to enter the law firm of the year award).

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission/Development Consent Order to be eligible for an award.

LOCAL AUTHORITY PLANNING TEAM OF THE YEAR

This award will go to the local planning authority team that most clearly demonstrates outstanding service to the local community. This could be through demonstrating the positive impact that one or more aspects of its work has had on the physical or environmental quality of a place or places and/or the economic or social wellbeing of a community or communities, or the likelihood of such impact in the future. Entries could come from teams responsible for plan-making, development management or enforcement, or a combination of these.

PLANNING PERMISSION OF THE YEAR

This award will go to the applicant who has received a full or outline permission that the judges consider to be most likely to have the most significant positive impact on the physical or environmental quality of a place or places and/or the economic or social well-being of a community or communities. The judges will be looking in particular for objective evidence, whether from the local planning authority or other independent source, of the likely positive and significant impact of the permission. Please note that the permission must have been granted during the eligibility period (see above) that applies to all the Planning Awards categories.

AWARD FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN PLANNING

This award will go to the entry that best shows how stakeholders (such as elected members, statutory consultees, interest groups, community groups, property owners and/or the general public) have been engaged in plan preparation, or preparation, consideration or determination of a planning application.

AWARD FOR PLANNING TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

This award will go to the team or individual that can most clearly demonstrate how one of more aspects of their professional planning work has helped, or is likely to help, to address climate change.

Among the outcomes, or likely outcomes, that judges will be looking for include: reducing greenhouse gas emissions (such as by improving energy efficiency or supporting renewable or low carbon energy generation), effective mitigation (such as by planning to mitigate flood risk or coastal change) and increasing greenhouse gas storage (through either natural or technological techniques)

PLACEMAKING CATEGORIES

These categories reward excellence in placemaking activity.

AWARD FOR BEST HOUSING SCHEME (FEWER THAN 500 HOMES)

This award will go to the housing scheme of fewer than 500 homes that most clearly demonstrates a positive impact or expected positive impact on the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of the community. New build and conversion schemes are both eligible. Entries need to make clear how many housing units a project has provided or plans to provide, the mix of tenures, and whether it already has planning permission (and if not, the stage it has reached in the planning process).

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR BEST HOUSING SCHEME (500 HOMES OR MORE)

This award will go to the housing scheme of 500 homes or more that most clearly demonstrates a positive impact or likely positive impact on the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of the community. New build and conversion schemes are both eligible. Entries need to make clear how many housing units a project has provided or plans to provide, the mix of tenures, and whether it already has planning permission (and if not, the stage it has reached in the planning process).

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

PLACEMAKING CATEGORIES (CONTINUED)

AWARD FOR PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH

This award will go to the entry that most clearly demonstrates how a project, plan or organisation has helped to generate, or is likely to help to generate, sustained economic growth in a place or community without negative effect on its environmental quality.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR BEST USE OF ARTS, CULTURE OR SPORT IN PLACEMAKING

This award will go to the entry that best demonstrates how a project, plan or organisation has used arts, culture or sport in a way that has improved, or is likely to improve, the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social wellbeing of a community.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR BEST USE OF HERITAGE IN PLACEMAKING

This award will go to the entry that best demonstrates how a project, plan or organisation has used a place or community's heritage in a way that has improved, or is likely to improve, the physical or environmental quality of the place or the economic or social well-being of the community. To be eligible, a scheme must either involve the conservation/preservation of historic buildings or a wider area, or in other ways capitalise on the history of a place and/or community.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR PARTNERSHIP WORKING

This award will be given to the initiative, project or plan that can best demonstrate how drawing on individuals and teams from different organisations, backgrounds and disciplines will enable or has enabled improvement to the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of a community. Entries must be able show the roles of the partners, and demonstrate how the project or plan has or will achieve something that would not be possible if the partners were to be working alone.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR REGENERATION

This award will be given to an entry that most clearly demonstrates how an initiative, scheme or organisation has improved, or is likely to improve, the physical or environmental quality of a deprived or rundown place or the economic or social wellbeing of its community. The entry needs to be clear about the measure by which the place or community in question is deprived or rundown, and the evidence that the project will help improve or is already improving the area, community and/or place.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR DESIGN EXCELLENCE

This award will be given to a project or plan that can best demonstrate how it has used or is planning to use high quality design to improve a place or create excellent prospects for improvement. When considering what additional material to provide to support the entry, please note that judges find plans (such as ground floor plans, typical upper floor plans, and site plans for context) helpful.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR FOSTERING A HEALTHY TOWN CENTRE

This award will go to the entrant that can most clearly demonstrate how a planning or placemaking team or strategy has improved, or is likely to improve, an individual town centre for occupiers and local people.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

AWARD FOR MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT

This award will go to the mixed-use project or plan that most clearly demonstrates its positive impact, or its likely positive impact, on the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of a community.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

PLACEMAKING CATEGORIES (CONTINUED)

AWARD FOR COMMUNITY-LED PLACEMAKING

This award will go to the entry that can best demonstrate the positive impact, or likely positive impact, on a place of a plan (for instance, a neighbourhood plan), project, initiative or organisation that has demonstrably been led by the local community.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

BEST USE OF PUBLICLY-OWNED LAND AND/OR PROPERTY IN PLACEMAKING

This award will go to the entry that best demonstrates use of publicly-owned land or property in a way that has improved, or is likely to improve, the physical, and/or social and/or environmental qualities of a place.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

BEST USE OF BROWNFIELD LAND IN PLACEMAKING

This award will go to the entry that best demonstrates use, or planned use, of brownfield land to improve the physical, environmental, economic or social attributes of a place.

Where an entry comprises a single project that is intended to go/is going/has gone through the development management process, it must have an outline or a full permission to be eligible for an award.

THE EDITOR'S AWARD

This special award will go to the category winner that, in the judgement of Planning's editor, represents the most exceptional achievement of all. (Entries cannot be submitted for this award, which will be made at the editor's discretion).



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