

WHY SHOULD YOU ENTER?

- Excellent opportunity to promote your business
- Use of award accreditation on your company marketing materials if you are shortlisted/winner of a category
- Press coverage by Time 107.5FM
- Press coverage by The Barking & Dagenham Post
- Acknowledgement on Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards and Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce websites of those shortlisted and winners in each category
- Finalists will receive two complimentary invitations to attend the Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2017 Reception, Dinner and Presentation and acknowledgement at that event of your business, at which there will be some 200 attendees

HOW TO ENTER?

Entry is Free. The closing date for entries is 5.00 pm on Friday, 12 May, 2017. Entry is open to businesses, organisations and self-employed individuals in the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham. There is also one category, 'Business Located outside Barking & Dagenham which is trading in Barking & Dagenham', which is open only to those located outside Barking & Dagenham. No previous winner of a category can enter the category again.

To enter, please:

- Complete the official Awards Entry Form
- Attach an explanation of how you meet the criteria for the category being entered containing between 150 - 500 words
- You may attach appendices to support your application, for example
- Summary financial information
- Customer testimonials
- Summary data in respect of company performance and/or plans for the future, but not company brochures or annual reports
- Forward your Awards Entry Form and attachments by E-mail: info@bdchamber.co.uk; Fax: 020 8593 1223 or post to: Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards, Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce, Visitor Centre, londoneast-uk, Rainham Road South RM10 7XS or visit www.bdchamberbusinessawards.co.uk

All finalists, including Business Person of the Year nominees, will be required to attend a short meeting with the Business Awards Judges.

NEXT STEPS

Following the judges reviewing applications, a senior management representative of those shortlisted will be invited to attend a short meeting with the judges that will take place during the weeks commencing 15 - 26 May. Entrants who fail to attend the meeting at the agreed time, may have their entries judged on their original submission.

PRIZES

The winner in each award category will receive:

- An engraved trophy, framed certificate and interview with Time 107.5FM
- Coverage in The Barking & Dagenham Post
- Announcements on the Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards & Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce websites & local media
- The runners-up will receive a framed certificate

Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards, Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce, Visitor Centre, londoneast-uk, Rainham Road South RM10 7XS www.bdchamberbusinessawards.co.uk



BDCC

Barking and Dagenham
Chamber of Commerce

BARKING & DAGENHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS AWARDS 2017

Celebrating business excellence in Barking & Dagenham, the Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce Business Awards recognise businesses across all sectors

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AWARD CATEGORIES



BARKING & DAGENHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2017

Sponsored by: Vicarage Field Shopping Centre

This category will be awarded by the judging panel and is only open to the winners of each of the other categories. Each winner will be automatically considered. You cannot nominate yourself.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Best of the best businesses



BARKING & DAGENHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR 2017

Sponsorship available

This category is only open to either a business owner or employee who has demonstrated leadership and motivational ability in running and developing their business.

You must be nominated by someone else for this category. You cannot nominate yourself.

What the judges will be looking for:

The person must:

- Be working for, or own a successful business or not for profit organisation in the borough
- Demonstrate vision, ability to motivate, determination, innovation & creativity
- Must demonstrate (with examples) how their role has been central to the growth/success of the business, including overcoming any obstacles
- Have a good business track record
- Support others in business
- Be well respected by customers and staff of the business



BUSINESS LOCATED OUTSIDE B&D WHICH IS TRADING IN B&D

Sponsorship available

This category is only open to businesses located outside of Barking & Dagenham, but who are trading in Barking & Dagenham.

What the judges will be looking for:

- What business are you doing in Barking & Dagenham?
- How do your business plans for the coming year include business in Barking & Dagenham?
- Can you demonstrate a track record of business in Barking & Dagenham?



YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR/BUSINESS PERSON

Sponsored by: London School of Management Education

This category is open to a young business owner or employee (under the age of 30) who has demonstrated vision and creativity. You will need to demonstrate that your contribution to the business has had a direct impact on its success.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Your vision for the business
- How you have achieved your objectives, and overcome obstacles
- Your plan for the coming year



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (INCLUDING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE)

Sponsored by: Shearforce Security

This category is open to businesses, voluntary and community organisations who have made a contribution to the local community over the last 12 months.

Entrants will be measured on their social impact – not on their financial support to organisations

What the judges will be looking for:

- How you helped your local community
- How have your efforts made a difference?
- Can you demonstrate a track record of delivery?



BUSINESS & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (INCLUDING GREEN BUSINESS & FAMILY FRIENDLY WORKING)

Sponsored by: Canary Wharf Group PLC / East London Business Place

This category is for businesses that can demonstrate that their management practices have improved working conditions, and/or relationships with customers, suppliers and/or that their products or services have had a positive impact on their business.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Examples of best practices
- Business benefits of your products, services or actions
- Examples of how products or services are designed, produced, or marketed



INNOVATION & USE OF DIGITAL MEDIA

Sponsored by: Prontaprint Barking

This category is for businesses which have harnessed digital technology or have been innovative in their business, and helped to raise the company profile, profitability or efficiency.

What the judges will be looking for:

- How digital technology or innovation has helped your business to raise its profile
- How the use of digital platforms, including website and social media/or innovative products or services, have helped your business improve profit or efficiency
- Examples of customer friendly digital services or innovative products or services
- Plan for use of digital technology or innovation for the next 12 months



CUSTOMER SERVICE

Sponsored by: Fix Auto Dagenham

This category recognises the business that pays attention to the needs of customers and strives for excellence in customer satisfaction and service.

What the judges will be looking for:

A business that:

- Demonstrates a clear example of excellent customer service
- Has identified its customer needs
- Engages, trains and manages staff to meet customer expectations at all times
- Has ongoing strategies to identify initiatives that benefit customers, suppliers and staff
- Demonstrates commitment to customer service



TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORTING EDUCATION

Sponsorship available

This category is aimed at companies which have excellent training, education and/or development practices.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Identification of the workforce needs of your business
- Demonstration of company commitment to training, development and/or education of its workforce
- What types of training and development do you provide?
- How will future training and development priorities for the business benefit the business



BUSINESS GROWTH

Sponsored by: Time 107.5FM

This category is open to businesses which are able to demonstrate business growth within the market place over the last 18 months.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Growth achieved against business plan
- Provision of figures demonstrating growth of your business in sales, staff, profits, etc.
- Plans for future growth targets over the coming 12 months



BEST NEW BUSINESS

Sponsored by: The Nova Agency

This category is open to any business which has registered a business in Barking & Dagenham over the last 18 months

Entrants must be able to show how their business has progressed in line with their business plan.

Success can be demonstrated by the business and its employees having a clear understanding of their products, competitors and its specific marketplace.

What the judges will be looking for:

- When the business was formed and launched
- Business performance against business plan, including any obstacles overcome and success achieved
- Establishing the company's profile
- Future plans for the coming 12 months



SOLE TRADER/MICRO BUSINESS (5 or less employees)

Sponsorship available

This category is open to a small business with 5 employees or less.

You could be working from home, hot-desking, running an online business, a sole trader, market trader, or running a small shop. The main criteria is that your business is thriving.

What the judges will be looking for:

- Creativity and innovation on limited resources
- Evidence of achievement and sustainability
- Clear vision for the future