**NOMINATION FORM**

 **Innovation Award**

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| --- | --- |
| Company Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Website |  |
| Business Activity |  |
| Main Contact  |  |
| Position |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Email |  |
| Trading Since (mm/yyyy) |  |
| At the time of your application how many people are employed?How many are apprentices? |  |
| What is your annual turnover? | 19/20: £ | 20/21: £ | 21/22: £ |
| How many people were employed between the following years?How many were apprentices? | 19/20: | 20/21: | 21/22: |

**This award recognises a company or organisation that has introduced new ideas, revolutionary products, processes, or services, or introduced digital innovation into the business.  The pandemic forced changes in the way we do business and accelerated innovation which might otherwise have taken years; therefore, it will also recognise a company or organisation that remodelled its business and developed innovative solutions or products that helped them through the challenges posed by Covid lockdowns, Brexit, global supply chain issues and rising energy costs.**

The Judges are looking for a business that not only demonstrates an innovative approach but also maintains a strong focus and emphasis on sustainability and the environment for example better use of energy and raw materials, safer performance, and lower environmental impact. Engagement / working in collaboration with a higher educational institution or professional body to improve performance will also be considered.

**In shortlisting** **Judges will consider the evidence that demonstrates the following:**

* A description of the innovation that has taken place or that have been developed during the last 2 years and the reasons/drivers behind it, including if relevant integration of digital solutions/innovation
* Resilience and ingenuity, for example how the business responded/adapted to the pandemic and what has been achieved
* Effective leadership and management in developing and promoting innovation and bringing about sustainable change within the business, and/or contribute to the sustainability of the company and its customers.
* Engagement with professional bodies or higher education to improve performance
* Approach to Corporate Social Responsibility for example evidencing social value, apprenticeships (created/sustained), supporting young people into work, use of local suppliers, use of local skills/labour, bringing other businesses into the supply chain, community engagement/involvement, health, and wellbeing initiatives
* How the business is tackling and contributing to achieving net zero

**Provide a pen portrait of the business/organisation.**

**Provide sufficient detail to enable the Judging Panel to form a clear picture of your business/organisation, describe who you are, what you do, the business journey, where you are today - no more than 800 words. In shortlisting the judges will consider the bullet points above. (Photographs can be included - no more than 3).**

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**Please answer the following questions below (no more than 500 words per question).**

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| Provide information on the new ideas, products, processes, or services that have been introduced or developed over the last 2 years/how the business was remodelled to help with challenges posed by the pandemic, Brexit, global supply chain issues etc. |
| What has been the impact on the business? |
| How was this innovation achieved? (Include support provided from external sources eg. Professional body or Higher Education Institution) Has there been external accreditation or recognition? |
| Describe the positive impacts for the borough of Knowsley because of the innovation |
| What contribution do you consider the business has made to the borough of Knowsley over the last 2 years in terms of Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Value? Economy (including Local Supply Chain):Workforce (including Skills and Apprenticeships):Residents/Community: Education/Young People:Staff (development, recruitment, training health and wellbeing): |
| Describe your business plans for future growth? |
| Knowsley Council has worked closely with local strategic partners, residents, businesses and other stakeholders to co-produce the [Knowsley 2030 strategy](https://councillors.knowsley.gov.uk/documents/s64698/Item%204%20-%20Appendix%20One%20-%20Knowsley%202030%20draft%20for%20consideration%20-%20Better%20Together%20Board.pdf?StyleType=standard&StyleSize=none) How will your business support the **Knowsley 2030 Strategy**, and help to raise the profile of Knowsley? |

**Why Enter?**

**Remarkable. Unique. Strong.**

That is how we would describe Knowsley, and with all the challenges we have faced over the last two years, Knowsley’s business community have certainly proven that to be true. Our business community is ambitious, collaborative and flourishing.

The **Knowsley Business Awards** return in 2022 to recognise those individuals and companies who help to make Knowsley a success. The 2019 ceremony was a sell out and the biggest event to date, hosting 860 guests from across the North West and beyond.

The **Knowsley Business Awards** provide a fantastic opportunity to showcase your business, your successes, and your accomplishments. The awards provide you with an opportunity to reward your staff, receive independent recognition of your business achievements, and help to open doors to new opportunities.

And, as Knowsley celebrates its year as **Liverpool City Region Borough of Culture 2022**, there has never been a better time when Knowsley showcases its accomplishments.

**Who Should Enter/Eligibility**

Nominations are welcome from individuals and businesses / organisations based in Knowsley. Please note the only exceptions are for the categories of Contractor of the Year, Commercial Development Award and Housing Development of the Year i.e. Where a developer/investor, contractor or partner has made a substantial physical investment which has been significantly beneficial to the borough of Knowsley.

Applicants can self-nominate or be nominated by someone else (if you are nominating on behalf of someone, please ensure that you receive the Nominee’s consent prior to submitting the Nomination Form).

**How to Enter**

It is free to submit nomination/s. Simply choose the category or categories most suitable for your business (up to a maximum of 3 categories), complete the nomination form and send via email to Irene.johnson@knowsley.gov.uk.

Photographs are permitted – no more than 3.

For an informal conversation to discuss your nomination and suitable categories, you can call **Irene Johnson on**

**0151 443 2262/07385 347600**

**Closing Date**

The closing date for nominations is Friday 29 July 2022, 5pm.

**Shortlist**

Judges will consider the shortlist based on written submissions. Therefore, applications MUST be accurate and provide sufficient evidence and detail for the Judges to gain an insight into the business. Successful applicants will be informed early September 2022.

**Confidentiality and Filming**

All information submitted as part of your nomination will be treated in the strictest of confidence and will not be disclosed to anyone other than the Judging Panel.

A short film will be produced for all shortlisted entries to be shown at the Knowsley Business Awards 2022. By submitting a nomination, you agree to be filmed as part of the awards process. **Individual film clips will be available to shortlisted businesses for their own promotion.**

Financial information will be treated in the strictest of confidence and will not be disclosed to anyone, other than the panel of judges.

**The Awards Ceremony**

The winners of each category will be announced at the prestigious Knowsley Business Awards. The dinner and awards ceremony will be held within the spectacular grand marquee in the grounds of Knowsley Safari Park on Thursday 24 November 2022.

On the evening, your guests will dine in an exotic and exhilarating **Electric Jungle**, with a fusion of cool, contemporary neon and Eastern intrigue and enchantment.

Throughout the evening you will be treated to gravity-defying, aerial performances, LED dancers and UV acrobats (sponsored by Best Parties Ever). Once the awards ceremony concludes, you can then dance the night away with party music from the resident DJ, enjoy the charity casino and even ride on the dodgems!