

**Liverpool Chamber Innovation in Business Awards Categories 2022**

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| **Category** | **Overall Award** | **Innovation Award** | **Criteria** |
| Responsible Business (Social and Governance) | Responsible Business of the Year (Social and Governance) | Responsible Business of the Year (Social and Governance): Innovation Award. | This award celebrates those businesses who are taking steps to create a positive impact within their own business and the wider community.  Examples include:   * Helping to reduce inequalities, including access to employment, through internal policies and collaborative partnerships * Demonstrating that a responsible business can be a sustainable and profitable business. * Supporting physical and mental wellbeing (including changes to internal working practices and staff benefits post-Covid) * Initiating measures (internal and external) to create a more diverse work environment * Demonstrating strong leadership and governance (including decisions around investment and procurement)   For the innovation award, the judges will be looking for evidence of a clear vision, innovation, and creative delivery. |
| Responsible Business (Environment) | Responsible Business of the Year (Environment) | Responsible Business of the Year (Environment): Innovation Award | This award celebrates those businesses who are taking steps to reduce their environmental impact and improve their longer term sustainability.  Examples include:   * Having policies and initiatives in place to reduce carbon imprint, waste/waste disposal and to improve resource management/efficiency, and sustainability practices * Developing new technologies to support carbon reduction, clean energy or other sustainable solutions * Working in collaboration with partners to support the transition to net zero, raising awareness and supporting local communities * Demonstrating strong leadership and governance to improve staff awareness and engagement * Recognising longer term risks for business around climate change, including exposure to increasingly severe or unpredictable weather events, and taking steps to address that including longer term investment decisions   For the innovation award, the judges will be looking for evidence of a clear vision, innovation, and creative delivery. |
| International | International Business of the Year | International Business of the Year: Innovation Award | This awards celebrates:   * Those businesses who have demonstrated an ability to succeed in international markets, looking at a range of factors including consistent export sales growth, expansion overseas, innovation in products and services and ethical and sustainable exporting models and consistency. * Dynamic entrepreneurs or start-ups, successful SME s and large companies operating globally so we can showcase your achievements in what continues to be a challenging environment for exporters. |
| Skills & Employability | Skills and Employability Business of the Year | Skills and Employability Business of the Year: Innovation Award | This award celebrates businesses and education providers who are taking steps to invest in people through skills initiatives and programmes aimed at ensuring a talented workforce in the city region.  Examples include:   * Supporting education and early careers development through involvement in employability work and raising awareness of pathways into employment * Making efforts to tackle skills shortages/challenges and ensure lifelong learning and development amongst the workforce and the talent pipeline * Providing opportunities for people to develop skills, retrain and upskill to gain new experience and further their careers * Using initiatives designed to increase the employability of people such as apprenticeships, Kickstart scheme and T-Levels. * Putting skills and employability at the heart of the business and encouraging staff to nurture talent. |
| Young Person | Young Professional of the Year | Student of the Year | * This award celebrates a young person who exhibits qualities that inspire the business community. * This could be young entrepreneurs building their own business or employees that have had an outstanding impact on their business * We will also celebrate a student who has shown exceptional attitude or overcome adversity to thrive in their studies. |
| Customer Excellence | Customer Excellence Award | Customer Excellence Innovation Award | This award will celebrate companies that have implemented successful customer service strategies and upheld the highest standards in customer experience across all touchpoints. For example, in person service, the use of digital tools, or going above and beyond to fulfil orders.  For this award we will seek evidence of activities such as :   * The innovative use of new and existing technologies * Adaptation to new ways of working * Providing excellent service despite restrictions * Showing customers are at the heart of everything the company does |
| New Business | New Business of the Year Award | New Business of the Year Innovation Award | This award is judged by the same criteria as our Business of the Year Award but is open to organisations that will have been created no earlier than 2019.  Organisations should show examples of:   * Growth in their industry and an innovative approach to overcoming obstacles * Commercial success and future potential * Creating business responsibly and delivering a positive impact across the region * Delivering an exceptional product or service |
| Chair’s Award (Organisation) | Chair’s Award |  | * Selected by Liverpool Chamber Chair. |
| Chair’s Award (Individual) | Chair’s Award |  | * Selected by Liverpool Chamber Chair. |
| Business of the Year | Business of the Year | Most innovative Business of the Year | Organisations should show examples of:   * Growth in their industry and an innovative approach to overcoming obstacles * Commercial success and future potential * Creating business responsibly and delivering a positive impact across the region * Delivering an exceptional product or service |
| Business of the Year Award | Business of the Year Award (over 30 employees) | Business of the Year Award (under 30 employees) | Organisations should show examples of:   * Growth in their industry and an innovative approach to overcoming obstacles * Commercial success and future potential * Creating business responsibly and delivering a positive impact across the region * Delivering an exceptional product or service |