



LincolnshireMedia  
**BUSINESS  
AWARDS 2016**

in association with  
Lincolnshire  
Chamber of  
Commerce  
The Ultimate Business Network

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# Celebrating local success

[www.lincolnshireecho.co.uk/businessawards16](http://www.lincolnshireecho.co.uk/businessawards16)

#LincsBizAwards

# Welcome to the 2016 Lincolnshire Media Business Awards

We are looking to celebrate and champion our local business successes. Could that be you or your business? Or perhaps you know a business that deserves to be nominated for recognition. Have a look and see which categories are suitable for yourself or business. Shout about what you do well and let's celebrate success within Lincolnshire.

## This year's awards are

- Business of the Year 2016 *sponsored by Natwest & The Lincoln College Group*
- Start-up Business of the Year *sponsored by Bishop Grosseteste University*
- Small / Medium Business of the Year *sponsored by Grow on Growth Fund*
- Large Business of the Year
- Employee of the Year *sponsored by Greenray Turbines*
- Business Person of the Year *sponsored by Wilkin Chapman*
- Food and Farming Excellence Award *sponsored by Riseholme College*
- Innovation Award *sponsored by Barclays*
- Exporter of the Year *sponsored by Streets Chartered Accountants*
- Training Excellence Award *sponsored by the University of Lincoln*
- Heart of the Community Award *sponsored by Hobson Porter*
- Apprentice of the Year *sponsored by Oldrids & Downtown*
- Lifetime Achievement Award *sponsored by Lincolnshire Media & University of Lincoln*

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## 2016 Lincolnshire Media Business Awards: Entry Criteria

- You need to submit a completed application form for each category by the closing date of September 8, 2016. You can do this by:
  - Entering online at [www.lincolnshireecho.co.uk/businessawards16](http://www.lincolnshireecho.co.uk/businessawards16)
  - Emailing [businessawards@lincolnshiremedia.co.uk](mailto:businessawards@lincolnshiremedia.co.uk) to request an application pack
- Entries can only be accepted from businesses whose base, or a substantial proportion of business, is within the Lincolnshire county boundary, (including North/North East Lincolnshire).
- Entries are welcome from businesses (or individuals in the case of Business person/Employee of the year award) applying on their own or from independent nominators, having notified the nominee
- Companies and organisations can enter a maximum of three award categories, providing that the specific application criteria is fulfilled. Separate and bespoke applications should be made for each award. Other criteria may apply for a number of the award categories; see each award for details.
- Entrants must supply financial information as requested on the entry form.
- Entrants will need to make available whatever additional relevant information is required by the judges to assist them in reaching a decision.
- The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into before or after judging. All information received from entrants will be strictly confidential.
- After the closing date of September 8, our judging panel will complete a shortlist of three finalists for each category. The judging panel will then invite the shortlisted candidates to an interview to decide the overall winner of each category.
- If the standard of entries received is not suitable for three finalists per award, the judges will only put forward those suitable. Likewise, if the entries are of a high standard and an award warrants more than three finalists, then the judges will honour this.
- All finalists will be invited to the awards presentation and dinner which is to be held on Tuesday, 18 October, 2016. All finalists are entitled to two free tickets regardless of the amount of award categories they have been shortlisted for.

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# 2016 Lincolnshire Media Business Awards: Award Categories

**Business of the Year 2016** (*This award is not open for entry – judges will shortlist from all entries received.*)

This award will go to the business which has not only increased its own profitability and potential, but also has 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 its financial performance. The judges will also be interested in innovative products, services and expansion into new markets and areas of business activity. The category will also be judged against the principles of the Business Excellence Model; Leadership, People Management, Policy and Strategy, Customer Satisfaction, Impact on Society, and Business Results.

## Start-up Business of the Year

This award recognises the progress in terms of business growth and development made by a start-up business under three years old (on 8 September, 2016) in Lincolnshire. The judges will be interested in business plans and their perusal, financial performance, achievements to date and potential growth within the next few years. Accounts will be required but all information supplied will be treated in absolute confidence.

## Small / Medium Business of the Year

This award recognises the progress in terms of business growth and development made by a small business over three years old (on 8 September, 2016) in Lincolnshire with an annual turnover less than £5m. The judges will also be interested in innovative products, services or processes and expansion into new markets and areas of business activities. Accounts will be required but all information supplied will be treated in absolute confidence.

## Large Business of the Year

This award recognises the progress in terms of business growth and development made by a business over three years old (on 8 September, 2016) in Lincolnshire with an annual turnover of more than £5m. The judges will also be interested in innovative products, services or processes and expansion into new markets and areas of business activities. Accounts will be required but all information supplied will be treated in absolute confidence.

## Employee of the year

This award will recognise achievements of an employee who has made a significant contribution to the success of the company they are employed by and who have exceeded expectations within their organisation. Judges will want to see the personal development of the individual, examples of their dedication and commitment, and their product/service knowledge and the benefits that this has delivered to the business. *Nominations or self-nominations can be made for this category.*

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# 2016 Lincolnshire Media Business Awards: Award Categories

## Business Person of the Year

This award will go to an outstanding individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and vision. They will be an employed or self-employed person working at any level within a public or private sector organisation. Their efforts will have brought sustained benefits to their organisation, for employees, customers, suppliers and stakeholders. Entrants will have: led the development and implementation of practices to strengthen the organisation, provided inspiring leadership to employees/colleagues, worked proactively to exceed the expectations of customers and raised the profile of the organisation. *Nominations or self-nominations can be made for this category.*

## Innovation Award

This award provides recognition to those businesses that have found and developed new solutions to business growth or competitiveness. The judges will be looking for businesses that have been innovative by either: finding a new way of successfully engaging with customers, developing a new product or service, discovering a new solution or business processes, finding a new way of supplying or being supplied, finding and reaching new markets and developing and implementing methods for increasing efficiency.

## Exporter of the Year

This award will be awarded to an organisation that has generated substantial and sustained increases in export activity. The judges will consider what makes the winning company different to their competitors, the level of export and the products or services exported. Barriers that have been overcome alongside products that have been sold without export credits may also be considered.

## Food and Farming Excellence Award

The food and farming industry represents a vital part of Lincolnshire's economy, from those engaged in growing food on farms across the county to the globally important work being carried out by many companies and this award seeks to recognise the work undertaken by the businesses who are successfully innovating in this crucial sector of the economy. The winner can be drawn from any element of the chain – from major producers, to processors to retailers. Entries will need to demonstrate innovation and a strong, all-round performance over the last 12 months, including strategic planning for growth, an ability to respond to market conditions, innovative sales and marketing strategies, diversification, and a positive contribution to the environment.

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# 2016 Lincolnshire Media Business Awards: Award Categories

## Training Excellence Award

This award recognises organisations within the private or public sector. Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate, through their entry, how implementing training and staff development brings measurable productivity benefits which creates real business impact for the organisation. The judges will want to see evidence of how training has supported their organisation's business objectives and how it has made a real impact. The entry should be supported by staff case studies, showing how the individual has benefited both professionally and personally from the training.

## Heart of the Community Award

This award celebrates excellence in corporate, social and ethical activity and seeks to identify those organisations which best exemplify the social and community spirit. The judges will pay particular attention to evidence of contribution to the community, a commitment to projects that demonstrate working in partnership with society and aiding economic regeneration by supporting local suppliers and partners.

## Apprentice of the Year

This award is open to an apprentice who has shown outstanding progress and commitment to their own personal development.

The apprentice must have been employed by their current employer for a minimum of 12 months before the closing date. The apprentice must be enrolled on a recognised scheme, either sponsored by the employer or as part of a government scheme. They must also be able to demonstrate consistent dedication to their training and development and show a positive impact on the business they work for. Nominations or self-nominations can be made for this category.

## Lifetime Achievement Award *(Nominations will not be accepted for this.)*

This award will be given to a business person from Lincolnshire who we believe has gone above and beyond to serve their county and the communities around them. This award will be chosen by Lincolnshire Media and the University of Lincoln.

## Awards presentation and dinner

This year's awards presentation and dinner will be held at the EPIC Centre, Lincolnshire Showground, on Tuesday, 18 October, 2016. All finalists are entitled to two free tickets regardless of the amount of award categories they have been shortlisted for. Additional tickets can be purchased at £60pp plus vat. If you are a finalist, we will deduct the finalist ticket cost from your invoice. If you wish to purchase tickets, please email [businessawards@lincolnshiremedia.co.uk](mailto:businessawards@lincolnshiremedia.co.uk)

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