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The APSE Energy Awards 2025 supported by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)

APPLICATION FORM

Further information on the application process can be found below

Once completed, email this form to **Aevans@apse.org.uk**

There is an extension for submissions until **5pm on 3 December 2024.**

**Section 1 - Profile**

Name:

Position:

Authority/Organisation:

E-Mail:

Mobile/Telephone:

**□ Please tick this box if you give APSE Energy permission for your submission to be shared with other local authorities for best practice purposes post awards.**

**Section 2 – Submission Summary**

Title of submission:.

Summary:

*Please provide a brief summary of the submission below. The statement should be 80 words or less.*

Select the category that you are submitting for:

(Applications should be made for one category only).

Supporting Innovation

Accessing and Managing Finance

Working in Collaboration

**Section 3 – Submission text**

*This is where you can demonstrate your innovative work and explain your submission in detail. Please write 2,000 words or less.*

**Note that the closing date for submissions is 28th November 2024 at 5pm.**

**Email your completed form to Adam Evans at** [**Aevans@apse.org.uk**](mailto:Aevans@apse.org.uk)

Dates to remember:

* Submissions to be returned no later than **Tuesday 3rd December 2024**.
* Finalists to be notified in the week beginning by **Monday 6 January 2025.**
* The winner will be announced at the BIG Energy Summit in Birmingham on **26 and 27th February 2025.**

**If you have any questions regarding the awards please contact Phil Brennan, Head of APSE Energy at** [**pbrennan@apse.org.uk**](mailto:pbrennan@apse.org.uk)**.**

Further information:

APSE Energy is pleased to announce the inaugural Annual APSE Energy Awards in partnership with DESNZ for 2025.

The BIG Energy Summit will take place on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th February 2025 at the Birmingham Conference and Events centre, Hill Street, Birmingham, B5 4EW.

These prestigious awards are open to all local authorities and their public sector partners from across the United Kingdom. They are designed to recognise the significant contribution that local authorities are making to addressing the problems which have developed across the energy, climate change and sustainability agenda. Not only have local authorities made substantial progress with their own assets, but they are supporting their local communities and local economies to take forward action across their wider districts, cities and counties.

The categories for the 2025 APSE Energy Awards in partnership with DESNZ are:

1. **Supporting Innovation.**

Solutions to the problems of this agenda are developing at a rapid rate. New technologies are being tested, piloted, installed, monitored and maintained across local government every day to ensure they are able to deliver in real life situations. They can make major contributions to service delivery, efficiency and income generation and address a wide range of issues such as fuel poverty, building performance and energy security.

Submissions for this category might include :-

* Local authorities addressing demand – either for energy within their estate or demand for their services;
* Local authorities investing in or helping to develop energy efficiency technologies;
* Local authorities investing in or helping to develop renewable generation technologies;
* Local authorities investing in or helping to develop fuels;
* Local authorities acting as pilot organisations to support product or service development;
* Local authorities taking new approaches to risk management.

1. **Accessing and Managing Finance.**

Sourcing financial resources remains a perennial problem for any organisation looking to invest to tackle climate change or to invest in renewable generation, energy efficiency or ecological projects. This is down to the scale of the work in hand.

Submissions for this category might include :-

* Local authorities successfully accessing public sector funding;
* Local authorities successfully accessing private sector funding;
* Local authorities successfully accessing funding from the general public/crowdfunding;
* Local authorities trialling new business/ownership/leasing models;
* Local authorities managing finances differently to increase the amount of funding for internal projects.

1. **Working in Collaboration.**

Local authorities have a long history of coming together to solve problems and they also regularly work alongside the wider public and community/voluntary sectors too. Private sector suppliers will continue to make a major contribution, collaborating with local authorities to help meet net zero targets.

Submissions for this category might include :-

* Local authorities working together;
* Local authorities working with other public service delivery partners;
* Local authorities working with community energy organisations;
* Local authorities working with private sector partners to deliver projects;
* Local authorities working with local private sector businesses to support the latter’s progress to be net zero;
* Any combination of the above.

(These are examples and submissions are not limited to the list above).

The size of the challenges we face in terms of energy and climate change are so large it means that local authorities must be open to innovative products, services and approaches; find resources from all available sources and; work with any appropriate collaborators. The solutions are beyond the boundaries, both geographical and organisational, of any single local authority or any single sector for that matter.

These awards are one way of encouraging local councils to promote the work they have done to others in the sector. There are benefits to be gained from publicising actions and results within the local authority as well as to those in other councils. Shared learning depends on those who are prepared to tell their story and a stage on which to tell it.

APSE Energy and DESNZ can provide that platform to showcase the actions of local councils across the public sector to highlight the positive outcomes that have resulted from the activities of those councils at the forefront of tackling this agenda.

The awards will help to spread the lessons of progress made to date, elevate the ambitions of councils to follow those at the vanguard and ensure that local government’s role is seen as just as valid as others when tackling climate change and energy issues.

**The practicalities**

Your submission will need a title – something relevant and catchy!

Your submissions should be entered on the above form. It includes an 80 word summary of the submission. The maximum words allowed is 2,000.

Unfortunately, due to the judging criteria, we are unable to accept the same entry for different categories. Each needs to be unique. So please do not submit the same entry for different categories.

Photographs are acceptable but the file size must be below 2MB.

**What do we want to hear about?**

Simply put, we want to hear the story of what has been done at your local authority. What is the project or activity or partnership or change made?

What were the drivers, policies or problems that started the action?

Who is involved?

What was actually done?

What were the outcomes?

How can you tell if it was a success?

What are you doing next?

What went wrong as well as right?

How was it communicated?

How does it show value and what is that value?

What would you do differently?

Most of all what can other local authority officers and councillors learn from your experience?

**Who will the judges be?**

There will be a separate judging panel for each of the 3 awards comprising a judge from each of APSE Energy, DESNZ, a Net Zero Hub and a local authority. Each will be experienced in both the energy, climate change and sustainability agenda as well as local government.

**What will the judges be looking for?**

Remember you are writing your entry for a judge who has no idea what your service or project is about so remember to tell us some essentials and focus on the category you are entering - **Supporting Innovation**, **Accessing and managing Finance** or **Working in** **Collaboration**.

**Will the submissions be made available to other local authorities?**

The aim of the awards is to enable sharing and learning so all submissions will be made available to other public service providers – so don’t include any details which are confidential.

**And finally**

Make sure your submission is clear, easy to read and well laid out; it focuses on content; and it does not have any separate appendices.

**What if I get through to the final?**

The awards will be an integral part of the APSE Energy Summit held in partnership with DESNZ. They will be a further opportunity to share and learn between delegates which is a fundamental element of the Summit. The Summit has been running for over a decade and is already very well attended. Those who are selected as finalists will be in attendance at the Summit as delegates and the awards will be presented at the dinner which takes place on the evening of Wednesday 26th February 2025.

The finalists will be informed as part of the Summit booking and confirmation process.