



## Background to the Awards

The Civic Trust Awards was established in 1959 to recognise outstanding architecture, planning and design in the built environment.

As the longest standing built environment awards scheme in Europe, since its inception, more than 7000 projects have been rewarded and the scheme has continued to recognise projects that have made a positive contribution to the local communities they serve.

The Civic Trust Awards is one of the only remaining independent built environment awards schemes, not linked to any organisation, institution or publication and operates on a not-for-profit basis. We also provide an opportunity for the public to participate in nominating and judging schemes from their local area.

The aim of the Civic Trust Awards is to encourage the very best in architecture and environmental design, to improve the built environment for us all through design, sustainability, inclusiveness and accessibility, and to reward projects that offer a positive cultural, social, economic or environmental benefit to their local communities.

## Why the Civic Trust Awards?

The Civic Trust Awards celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2024 with the awards ceremony welcoming over 300 built environment professionals from all over the world to the event to celebrate their success.

Architects and built environment professionals consider the Civic Trust Awards to be one of the most prestigious awards schemes within the industry. Hundreds of projects are submitted to us each year by internationally renowned architects and developers. Entries can be submitted by anyone connected with the project, whether they are based in the UK or overseas.

The Civic Trust Awards is not just about rewarding architecture or design excellence. We strongly believe that successful projects should also exhibit strong sustainability credentials, a high level of accessible and universal design, whilst also demonstrating how the project has provided a positive civic contribution. The Civic Trust Awards is unique and is recognised as the only 360° awards scheme in the world that promotes:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellence in architecture and design standards | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible and Inclusive design | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive community impact      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable design & construction               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultation with user groups   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Innovation                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social and economic renewal                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Localism                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary & permanent projects |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sensitive conservation and restoration          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Designing in context            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A wide variety of entries      |

## The Awards Programme

- **June - July:** Application round is open, and entries are submitted online.
- **August:** Applications are processed, and assessors are allocated to visit schemes around the UK and Internationally.
- **Sept - Oct:** First stage Assessment: Judging visits take place and feedback is submitted into the Online Assessment Centre. Those schemes that are of significant merit in their region are recommended as Regional Finalists on the Assessment Centre by Assessors.
- **November:** Applicants are notified if they have been successful at first stage assessment and considered Regional Finalists. These projects are then put forward for second tier assessment to the CTA National Judging Panel and considered for a National Award or be Highly Commended.
- **December:** National Judging Panel meet to ratify the final National/International Award and Highly Commended winners.
- **January:** Winners are notified, with all organisations involved invited to the Civic Trust Awards Ceremony to celebrate their success.
- **March:** The Awards Ceremony takes place at the end of March each year (date & venue tbc). This is a black-tie event, with drinks reception, dinner and the presentation of Awards and Highly Commended winners are revealed. Special Award Sponsors receive 2 complimentary tickets and are invited to give an introductory speech before presenting their award to the winning recipient.



## The Awards Ceremony

The Civic Trust Awards Ceremony is held around the country and since 2010 has been hosted at the following venues:

- 2010 - St Georges Hall, Liverpool
- 2011 - Peoples History Museum, Manchester
- 2012 - The Hub, Edinburgh
- 2013 - City Hall, Cardiff
- 2014 - Winter Gardens, Blackpool
- 2015 - The Swan Theatre, London
- 2016 - The Swan Theatre, London
- 2017 - The Guildhall, Winchester
- 2018 - Manchester United Football Club (Old Trafford), Manchester
- 2019 - Imperial War Museum North, Manchester
- 2020 - Imperial War Museum North, Manchester
- *Due to the Covid Pandemic, the Awards Ceremony was not held in 2021 or 2022.*
- 2023 - The Marshall Building, London
- 2024 - Concorde Conference Centre
- 2025 - Venue & Date TBC

## Civic Trust Awards Patron



The annual Awards Ceremony is hosted by our Patron **George Clarke**, English architect, television, presenter, lecturer, and writer, best known for his work on the Channel 4 programmes *The Home Show*, *The Restoration Man* and *George Clarke's Amazing Spaces*. George is passionate about the way architecture can transform our everyday lives and his aim is to make architecture popular and accessible to the public. George has helped raise awareness of the Civic Trust Awards amongst the public, encouraging them to participate in the scheme by volunteering as local community assessors.

## Why should you consider Sponsorship

For over 60 years the Civic Trust Awards has encouraged and rewarded organisations who design and construct better places in which we can all live, work and relax.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we rely on the financial support of Sponsorship which assists us in the operations and delivery of the scheme and valuable work of our volunteer assessors. This ensures that the process remains independent, impartial and able to provide the opportunity for hundreds of built environment professionals, students and the general public to participate in nominating, visiting and judging entries all over the UK, Ireland and Internationally.

Whether your interest lies in supporting an ethos of design excellence, regeneration, or contributing to the success of local communities, Sponsorship support helps demonstrate your company's commitment to promote and champion better places in the built environment.

## Special Award Sponsorship

- Special Awards Sponsorship is available at a rate of **£5,000** (plus VAT) per year.
- A discounted rate is available for a pre-agreed commitment to sponsor a Special Award for **£12,000** (plus VAT) over a period of 3 years.
- For a 5 Year commitment, we can offer a discounted rate of **£18,000** (plus VAT). You will also receive discounted application fees of **£100** on each entry you submit.
- Payment can be spread over multiple years and does not need to be paid upfront.
- You also have the option of changing your sponsorship support to a different Special Award each year, should your remit change.



## Special Award Sponsorship Benefits

- Branding on the Civic Trust Awards website [www.civictrustawards.org.uk](http://www.civictrustawards.org.uk)
- Branding on the Awards promotional materials and application/assessor guidance
- Promotion of the Special Award on emails including those sent to local authorities, architects, other built environment professionals and trade/regional press.
- Access to our archive of past winners including application materials, photos, and assessment reports from 1959 to date.
- 10 free copies of the Civic Trust Awards Winners brochure
- Nomination of a representative from your organisation/practice to the CTA National Judging Panel, who will choose the Special Award winning project that you are sponsoring.
- 2 complimentary tickets to the Civic Trust Awards Ceremony (additional tickets at discounted rates)
- Sponsors are invited to give a speech and present their Special Award to the winning recipients.
- Availability of your literature at the Awards Ceremony
- Free space to display your marketing boards.
- Inclusion of the Special Award winning scheme within the Winners Brochure (2 page feature)
- Branding opportunity on the specially designed Award plaque and certificates
- Complimentary full-page advert in the Civic Trust Winners brochure which is produced as a high-quality magazine and available to download from the CTA website.
- Press coverage of the Awards Ceremony (recognising projects and architects internationally)
- Coverage in trade, regional, national, and international press.
- Announcements on internationally recognised websites (such as architects journal and building design)
- Email winners notification to 30,000 contacts on our database.
- Promotion on our active and regularly updated social media inc Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn.

## Current Sponsors

### Derwent London

Following their initial support of the Special Award for Brick in 2013, we are incredibly grateful to Derwent London who have sponsored the Special Award for Sustainability since 2014 and we are delighted to continue our longstanding association with them and for their support for over 10 years.

Derwent London is one of London's most innovative office specialist property regenerators and investors and is well known for its designed philosophy and creative management approach to development. Their appealing designs attract a range of tenants, including those from creative industries.

### EPR

After being members of the Civic Trust Awards for many years, EPR Architects became the sponsor of the Special Award for Reuse and Adaptation in 2022 and have made a 5-year sponsorship commitment to us. The practice will decide each year from winning projects, which Special Award they will support in this first of its kind arrangement. We are incredibly grateful for their sponsorship and are excited to work with them.

EPR Architects are passionate about collaboration, artisan materiality and integrating art into architecture. They deliver sustainable, stimulating environments which embody the idea that architecture is the creative art of making places.

### BlueLight Management

In 2022, BlueLight Management came onboard with a multi-year commitment and have sponsored the Special Award for Transportation & Infrastructure twice and last year due to the high standard of education projects entered, were the sponsor of the inaugural Special Award for Education which was presented to an exemplar education building which inspires creativity, independence, and a love of learning.

BlueLight is a management consultancy committed to underpinning and protecting the interests of its clients engaged in the delivery of major complex construction and engineering projects. It offers a specialist suite of bespoke services, such as Project Management Services, Project Strategy / Turnaround Solutions, Defect Remediation and Compliance Solutions. Managing PFI contracts including expiry (e.g. the transfer of assets in the required condition / recourse options). CDM and Principal Designer Services and Appointed Person duties under Building Safety Act 2022. They encompass a range of expertise in project delivery, commercial management, contract management, design management, defects management and legal management. This expertise enables it to provide an unrivalled combination of services that deliver solutions to clients that are typically experiencing programme and commercial slippage or technical and/or contractual disputes.

BlueLight is also engaged by clients where there are concerns that handed over buildings and other assets could be defective and in need of rectification.





## 2025 Special Awards: Presented to schemes which demonstrate excellence in a specific field.

*All schemes that reach Award standard are eligible to be considered for the Civic Trust Special Awards.*

**National Panel Special Award** - Selected by National Judging Panel Members as the exemplary scheme from the year's Award-winning projects.

**Special Award for Sustainability** - Presented to an exemplary project, that demonstrates excellent sustainability credentials in terms of overall design parameters, material selection, construction methods and long-term energy consumption. [Sponsored by Derwent London](#)

**Special Award for Reuse & Adaptation** - Presented to an exceptional scheme that would otherwise be left to decay or be demolished to address present-day needs. The scheme should benefit the community and its users by maintaining its cultural heritage or restoring a culturally significant site, ensuring its viability for new uses and modern functions. [Sponsored by EPR Architects](#)

**Special Award for Transportation & Infrastructure** - Presented to an exceptional new or upgraded major infrastructure project that has transformed the civic realm and has a demonstrable qualitative effect upon its context and environment.

**Special Award for Community Impact & Engagement** - Presented to a scheme that has demonstrated how successful community engagement can help deliver the highest standards of design whilst meeting the needs of local people.

**Michael Middleton Special Award** - Presented as a memorial and tribute to Michael Middleton CBE, who established the Civic Trust Awards in 1959, to an outstanding restoration project or new build within a conservation area.

## Customised Special Awards

We can also tailor our Special Award categories to promote a specific area of interest, to fit with an organisational policy or promote products or services to our network of 30,000 applicants, assessors, and other industry professionals.

New themes that can be adapted to promote your company's aims and objectives - there is no limit to what can be delivered on your behalf. By way of an example, we have a number of potential categories that may be of interest, including:

**Public Realm or Hard Landscaping** - Presented to a scheme that has demonstrated excellence in design and construction, creating a true sense of place.

**Health and Wellbeing** - Presented to a scheme that has demonstrated excellence in the health sector, including hospitals, hospices, treatment centres, care homes and gateway centres.

**Education** - Presented to an exemplar education building which inspires creativity, independence, and a love of learning.

**Housing** - Presented to a scheme that has provided well designed, high quality, sustainable housing that improves quality of life by raising standards for the physical and social environment.

## For more information and to discuss sponsorship further, please contact:

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