EASTSIDE AWARDS

Belfast Harbour

THE 2026 EASTSIDE AWARD FOR COMMUNITY IMPACT

Who can enter:

Open to organisations delivering meaningful projects that make a difference to one or more communities in East or Greater East Belfast. This category recognises projects that respond to local needs, bring people together, and create positive change that can be clearly seen or felt. Entries should show how the community has helped shape the work and how its benefits will continue beyond the immediate project. Projects may be large or small, newly established or long-running, provided they can demonstrate genuine relevance and impact. Judges will value inclusive approaches, strong local relationships, and clear examples of how people's lives or experiences have improved.

What to include:

Share details of your community project:

- Why the project was started, its purpose, and who is involved.
- How your project is embraced by the community.
- What makes your project unique.
- Evidence of its impact: engagement levels, benefits to participants, long-term sustainability, and contribution to community development.
- Any other relevant details to support your entry.

How to enter:

Entering the Eastside Awards is simple. Here's how to get started:

1. **Choose Your Category**
   Visit www.eastsideawards.org and select the award category you'd like to enter or nominate someone for.
2. **Check the Criteria**
   Download the category criteria to see exactly what the judges are looking for.
3. **Decide How to Enter**
   You can submit your entry in **two ways**:
   - **Video Submission:** A great choice if you'd prefer to tell your story on camera.
   - **Written Submission:** Perfect if you'd like to provide a written entry.

Video Submission:

1. Fill out your basic details via the online entry form.
2. Upload your video (max. **120 seconds**) telling us why you or your nominee deserves to win.
3. There's no need for a polished production – just focus on **clearly explaining your story** and **meeting the criteria**.

Written Submission:

1. Complete your entry online or download a form and email it to **info@eastsideawards.org**.
2. Written entries should be **no more than 1,000 words** and clearly show how you meet the category criteria.

Helpful hints

- **Use the criteria as a guide** when writing or filming your entry - ensure that you address each point.
- The judges want **evidence of achievements, impact, and contributions** – include details and examples where possible.
- Judges can **only assess what you provide**, so include everything relevant to your success story.
- Whether you choose a written or video entry, **all entries are judged equally** based on how well you meet the criteria.
- If you have any questions or need help submitting your entry, contact: Jessica Higginson at **jessica.higginson@podiem.com** or call **028 9076 1030**.

Important dates

- **Entries Open:** Friday, 18 September 2026
- **Entry Deadline:** Friday, 16 October 2026 (5pm)
- **Judging:** Late November 2026
- **Finalists Announced:** Early December 2026
- **Awards Ceremony:** Friday, 29 January 2027 at Titanic Belfast