

TPAS Scotland NATIONAL GOOD PRACTICE AWARDS



A practical guide
to applying for the
National Good Practice
Awards

Guidance information for the National Good Practice Awards

In this guide, you will find all of the information, hints and tips that you will need to apply for the National Good Practice Awards.



Deadline

All applications must be submitted to TPAS Scotland by 17:00 on 7 May. Applications will be sent to our judges on 12 May.

Why apply for the National Good Practice Awards?

Across Scotland, there is excellent tenant participation work being done by tenants, tenant groups and social landlords, and our National Good Practice (NGP) Awards are a chance to recognise this.

If you have been involved in projects or initiatives that have had a significant impact, we'd encourage you to apply.

Who can apply?



The awards are open to all tenants, residents, registered social landlords and local authorities. There are five awards for tenants and tenant/community groups and five for social landlords.

Sharing good practice

Your award entries, as well as the award ceremony itself, allows us to identify and share good practice, learning and experience from across Scotland. After the awards, we will share an article via our own communication channels and with the housing trade press which highlights the excellent work that's taking place in the social housing sector.

Tips for applying:

- keep your application concise
- ensure you have checked the judges' requirements
- bring your application to life, through words, pictures or videos
- ensure that you have submitted the application. You will see a 'thank you' message once this has been done.

What are the award categories?

There are 10 award categories:

- 1.** Good practice in involving tenants to shape and improve services award
- 2.** Community involvement award
- 3.** Good practice in widening participation award
- 4.** Youth involvement award
- 5.** Good practice in communicating with tenants and residents award
- 6.** Tenant group of the year award
- 7.** Good practice in involving tenants in a current issue award
- 8.** Community environmental award
- 9.** Tenant voice award
- 10.** Tenant of the year – Alan Ferguson award

Winners of the awards will be invited to deliver a short acceptance speech during the National Good Practice Awards ceremony.

GOOD PRACTICE IN INVOLVING TENANTS TO SHAPE AND IMPROVE SERVICES AWARD

Landlord award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises a social landlord that has successfully involved tenants in shaping or reviewing services. This could include activities such as designing new services, identifying areas for improvement or testing services.

Judges will consider:

- improvements made by the landlord
- increased tenant satisfaction with the service
- how innovative the approach or improvement is.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD

Tenant/community group award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises and celebrates the achievements of a tenant or community-led group or project that has supported other individuals or groups within their community and made a positive impact.

Judges will consider:

- the type of support provided
- how the needs of the communities/individuals were met
- the impact the support has had on individuals/communities.

GOOD PRACTICE IN WIDENING PARTICIPATION AWARD

Landlord award

Assessment criteria:

This award recognises a social landlord that is actively investing in and supporting tenants and communities. Entries should focus on well-established support and advisory programmes that help residents to overcome challenges and improve their lives as well as create new opportunities.

Judges will consider:

- the impact on individual tenants and groups
- the long-term benefits achieved by the social landlord
- the resulting improvements.

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AWARD

Tenant/community group award

Assessment criteria

This award celebrates successful work by a tenant or community group to involve young people and the impact this has had on the local community and the young people themselves. The group can be supported by a social landlord, but the entry should focus on the group's efforts and achievements.

Judges will consider:

- the impact of involving young people in their project or services
- the actions taken to involve young people
- how the young people were involved in decision making.

GOOD PRACTICE IN COMMUNICATING WITH TENANTS AND RESIDENTS AWARD

Landlord award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises how effectively a social landlord has communicated with its tenants and residents. This could include a specific communication project to raise awareness or understanding of a particular topical issue, for example, fuel poverty, damp and mould or the cost of living.

Judges will consider:

- how suitable the communication methods were for tenants and residents from different backgrounds
- how effective the communication was
- any changes, improvements and lessons learned.

TENANT GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD

Tenant award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises a group of tenants who work to ensure tenants' voices are heard in order to shape housing services and/or influence their landlord's decisions. This can be a scrutiny group, tenants and residents' group or even a group of tenants who have come together for a specific purpose.

Judges will consider:

- the group's commitment
- the difference the group's work is making
- the range of work undertaken by the group, including any future plans.

GOOD PRACTICE IN INVOLVING TENANTS IN A CURRENT ISSUE AWARD

Landlord award

Assessment criteria

This award, a new addition this year to TPAS Scotland's National Good Practice Awards, recognises how a landlord has involved tenants in an issue that's either being faced by tenants across Scotland or is specific to their tenants.

Judges will consider:

- how innovative the approach and project was
- how positively the project impacted on tenants
- how sustainable the project is.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

Tenant/community group award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises a tenant or community group that has successfully engaged tenants/residents in initiatives that benefit the environment.

The award also recognises those who are supporting tenants to engage in, and benefit from, environmentally-focused initiatives.

Judges will consider:

- the approach you have taken to engage tenants/residents and the impact on the environment
- benefits to the community/tenants
- how sustainable the project is.

TENANT VOICE AWARD

Landlord award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises a social landlord that can demonstrate it supports and encourages its tenants to have a voice that is listened to and changes are made as a result. The social landlord should be able to clearly demonstrate the results of listening to, and hearing, their tenants.

Judges will consider:

- how the social landlord has worked to ensure the tenant voice is heard, listened to and acted upon at all levels
- if there were a variety of methods for all tenants to get involved
- the impact of listening to a significant and representative tenant voice.

TENANT OF THE YEAR – THE ALAN FERGUSON AWARD

Tenant award

Assessment criteria

This award recognises a social housing tenant who has made a significant contribution to tenant participation. This could either be as part of their work during specific projects; their role as part of a group, committee or board; or their work in the community as a whole.

Judges will consider:

- the commitment and dedication they have shown
- the difference they have made to the tenant community and/or groups they have worked with
- how inclusive they have been and how they have considered the needs of others.

Frequently asked questions

How much does it cost to apply ?

There is no cost to apply for our National Good Practice Awards. The awards ceremony itself is a ticketed event, and there is a cost to attend it. Full conference delegates will be able to attend the ceremony as part of their delegate fee.

Can I enter jointly with a partner organisation?

Yes you can enter with partner organisations.

Can I resubmit a project that has been considered in previous years?

Yes, however, entries that have been submitted in previous years should be updated to reflect any changes in our assessment criteria.

Frequently asked questions

Can I provide further evidence, in addition to completing the standard nomination form, to support my entry?

Yes, you can submit additional information in support of your entry such as photos, media coverage and website links. **Please note:** You should be aware that we might use information or images supplied as part of your entry for our publicity material. By entering the awards, you are agreeing to this.

Is there a limit to the number of entries I can submit?

No, we will accept more than one entry from the same organisation, tenant or community group.

What happens after I have submitted my entry?

After the awards close, we will gather entries and email all contacts with a receipt of your submission. If you don't receive an email from us, you should contact us on 9 May to discuss this further. Entries will be submitted to judges on 12 May.

COMMUNITIES SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

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Smart survey

This year we are using smart survey for all applications, you can save your progress and return to your application. All questions are mandatory.

Link to application

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NationalGoodPracticeAwards2025/>

Judges

TPAS Scotland will have a panel of judges that will look at each application without applicants details. This ensures fair judging.

Conditions of entry:

- Entries must be received by 17:00 on 7 May. Late entries will not be considered.
- Only entries that include the information requested on the application form and in this guidance will be considered.
- Any conflicts of interest or ties will be dealt with during the final judging. The judges' decision is final.
- All entries will be assessed on the information provided at the time of entry, and no subsequent correspondence will be accepted.
- By entering the awards, you agree to any information and/or images supplied being used in our publicity material.



Thank you!

“We look forward to receiving entries for our National Good Practice Awards and seeing the excellent work being carried out across Scotland.”

Jacqueline Norwood
TPAS Scotland Executive
Director



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