

2018 Ashden UK Awards

Please note this is a copy of the information available online at <https://apply.ashden.org> which is where you must fill in the application form.

Introduction

Before completing this application form, make sure you have read the information below (this is also available as a pdf: [Information for applicants](#)) and that your work is eligible for the 2018 Ashden UK Awards.

If you would like a preview of ALL the questions in this form, there is a [copy of the form](#) here. Note that not all of these questions will appear when you complete the actual form online, as some are shown or hidden based on your answers to earlier questions. The copy of the form is for reference only - the form must be completed online for your application to be considered.

The questions cover technical, business and financial aspects of your work, so please ensure that the relevant people contribute to the form in order to give you the best chance of success.

If you want to discuss whether your work is relevant to Ashden, or have questions about how to complete the form, please contact the Awards Coordinator on 020 7410 7023 or ukapps@ashden.org.

The application forms submitted will be reviewed, and those selected to proceed to the next stage of the application process will be invited to answer some additional questions and submit financial accounts. Their referees will also be contacted. There will be no further online forms to complete.

All information submitted may be seen by the Ashden team (judges, assessors and administration). Except where specified, it could also be used in publicity material if you are named as a runner up or winner. Please make it clear in your answers if any information should be restricted to the Ashden team only and not used in publicity materials.

If you decide not to complete your application for any reason then please withdraw using the 'Withdraw Application' button in the right-hand column of the dashboard.

Information for applicants

The Ashden Awards reward organisations that deliver sustainable energy at the local level, and through this bring social, economic and environmental benefits. In 2018 we will make up to **four UK Awards**, each of which comes with a prize of up to **£10,000** and the other benefits listed below. We will be giving separate awards to international organisations, details of which are available on our website www.ashden.org/apply.

The benefits of winning an Ashden UK Award include:

- Local and national publicity, through the work of our specialist media team.
- Where it can have material impact, tailored help from our support team to grow or replicate your work: this can include professional mentoring, training and introductions to investment and other finance.
- A range of media materials, potentially including photographs, video and print.
- Opportunities to present your work to large and influential audiences at the Ashden Awards Ceremony and other Ashden events.
- Where it can have material impact, introductions to influential policy and decision makers and an opportunity to make your voice heard.
- Membership of the Ashden Alumni network of Ashden Award-winners, which facilitates opportunities to create productive partnerships.
- Kudos of winning a prestigious Ashden Award. Our application and assessment process is known for being rigorous.

Who can apply for an Ashden UK Award?

- **Businesses**, which must have employees in the UK, and be providing their products or services in the UK, although the headquarters may be in another country.
- **Social enterprises**, which must have employees in the UK, and be working in the UK, both for-profit and not-for-profit, including community groups.
- **Not-for-profit groups**, which must have employees in the UK, and be working in the UK, such as charities, energy agencies or housing associations.
- **Public sector organisations** in the UK, including local authorities, higher education establishments, hospitals, fire services, police forces, etc.

2018 themes for Ashden UK Awards

The themes for 2018 are focused on the developments required to move the UK rapidly towards a low-carbon economy:

Sustainable buildings. Applicants will have worked on either new buildings with energy use significantly lower than that legally required, or on reducing energy use in existing buildings. Applications are welcome from architects, building engineers, developers and also businesses supplying products or services to reduce energy use in buildings. Examples from past winners include:

- [Passivhaus Trust](#)
- [GLA RE:FIT](#)
- [Max Fordham](#)
- [Demand Logic](#)
- [SEA and United House](#)
- [Parity Projects](#)
- [Archetype](#)

Energy innovation. We would like to receive applications from businesses that have developed innovative technologies, products or services for sustainable energy. These must be on the market, have the potential to scale up and result in significant CO₂ savings, for example by reducing energy consumption, increasing renewable energy generation, storing energy or providing smart grid services. Examples from past winners include:

- [Smarter Grid Solutions](#)
- [Open Energi](#)
- [Demand Logic](#)
- [Abundance Investment](#)
- [Monodraught](#)

Clean air in towns and cities (sustainable transport). We would like to receive applications from UK-based organisations, projects or programmes that have found innovative ways to reduce air pollution in urban areas by making transport more sustainable, while providing social and economic benefits to local residents and businesses. The winner will have the potential to scale up to work across wide areas, and/or to be replicated in other towns and cities. All sustainable forms of mobility and goods transport are eligible, as are policies put in place by local authorities. Examples from past winners include:

- [Nottingham City Council](#)
- [Big Birmingham Bikes](#)
- [Ecotricity Electric Highway](#)
- [Sustrans Connect2](#)
- [Liftshare](#)

Facilitating energy market transformation for sustainability. Applicants will be using innovative technology or business models in energy markets (the marketing, sale and/or supply of energy), that will encourage or create the conditions for decarbonisation of the UK energy system. Applicants may operate within or outside the wholesale market and may service either homes or businesses. Examples of the type of project that might apply include:

- Enabling households and businesses to buy energy from “local” renewable generators, i.e. using the distribution network but not the national transmission system.
- Facilitating peer-to-peer energy trading, possibly using blockchain technology.
- Supplying 100% renewable energy in a way that both benefits customers and encourages new renewable generation capacity to be built.
- Encouraging customers to shift or modify demand in ways that enable more renewable energy to be utilised.

Eligibility criteria for the Ashden UK Awards

To be shortlisted and win an award, the applicant must:

1. **Have products or services currently available for customers, clients or beneficiaries.** We do not reward pilot or demonstration projects.
2. **Be delivering demonstrable benefits to the environment.** We need to see evidence of the energy generated or saved, greenhouse gas emissions reduced and any other benefits.
3. **Have the capacity to create significant impact.** We are looking for winners that have potential to create significant impact in terms of sustainability, and are willing to work with Ashden after winning an award.
4. **Be working towards financial sustainability.** We are looking for efficient use of funds and evidence that future funding is being sought, whether from sales, grants or any other source. Organisations can be for profit or not for profit.
5. **Show an innovative approach to sustainable energy.** Although many Award-winners use established technologies, there must be innovative aspects to the winner's work as a whole. These could include using novel approaches to marketing; new ways of engaging with communities; technical developments; training; or skills development. Award-winning work must add something to what past winners have shown.
6. **Be delivering social or economic benefits to individuals, communities or businesses.** For example, urban or rural regeneration; improving working and living conditions; reducing fuel poverty; creating jobs and improving business practice; or improving energy security.
7. **Be able to demonstrate it has the capacity and commitment to make the use of sustainable energy more widespread.** Award-winning organisations must demonstrate good governance and management, an established and continuing commitment to sustainable energy, and a willingness to work with partners.
8. **Be able to contribute to Ashden's mission,** which is to encourage the growth of sustainable energy to tackle climate change and bring social and economic benefits to millions.

What will happen if you are longlisted

If your organisation is longlisted, we will get in touch in late November for the following, to better understand your work and to assure ourselves of your financial viability:

1. Answers to some additional questions about your work.
2. A copy of your published accounts for the past two years.
3. A copy of your draft accounts for the current year.

We will also follow up the referees you have given us, and we will publish a list of longlisted organisations in January 2018. Please do not publicise the fact that you have been longlisted before the list is published.

What will happen if you are shortlisted

If you are shortlisted we will get in touch to arrange a visit to assess your work. The visit usually lasts most of a day, and involves one or two people from Ashden and sometimes a representative from the funder of the award. Applicants that are

shortlisted will be publicly credited as runners-up if they do not become winners.

What will happen if you win an Award

As an Ashden Award winner, you will:

1. Be invited to London at Ashden's expense to take part in the Awards Week events on 13 and 14 June. **Winning an Ashden Award is contingent on taking part in the Awards Week activities.**
2. Receive a visit from Ashden's photographer and possibly from a one-person film crew.
3. Be expected to participate in media interviews that we may be able to arrange.
4. Agree with Ashden what you will spend the prize fund on and any business support you may receive.
5. Provide monitoring data about the progress of your work after one year, two years and three years.

Apply online for a 2018 Ashden UK Award

If your sustainable energy work fits the Awards criteria and our particular interests for 2018, you can apply for an Ashden Award by filling in the **online** registration form at <http://apply.ashden.org/>.

If you want to discuss whether your work is relevant to the Awards or have questions the application process, please contact the Awards coordinator on (020) 7410 7023 or ukapps@ashden.org.

It is important to read the detailed information about Ashden and case studies of previous winners on our website www.ashden.org before applying.

It is a condition of your entry to the 2018 Ashden Awards that Ashden has the right to publicise your involvement through its communications channels (including but not limited to its website, social media platforms and ceremony programme). All shortlisted applicants and particularly winners may be required by Ashden to participate in publicity opportunities such as media interviews.

Applications must be received by Tuesday 07 November 2017, 23:59 GMT.

Who should be applying for a different Ashden Award?

- Any organisation not offering products or services in the UK should check if they are eligible for an International Ashden Award instead.
- See www.ashden.org for details of all other awards programmes.

Awards process and timetable for the 2018 Ashden UK Awards

23:59 GMT, 7 November 2017	Deadline for receipt of online applications.
Late November 2017	Approximately 16 applicants will be selected to provide additional information, financial accounts and references. All other applicants will be notified that they have not been successful.
7 December 2017	Deadline for receipt of additional information, audited accounts and references.
January 2018	UK judging panel meets to shortlist approximately eight applicants. All other applicants will be notified that they have not been successful.
February and early March 2018	Assessors visit the shortlisted applicants.
Late March 2018	UK judging panel meets to select up to four Award winners. All other shortlisted applicants will be notified of the outcome.
April to June 2018	Production of publicity materials, photographs and case studies about winners' work, including Ashden's photographer and possibly a film maker visiting the winner.
13-14 June 2018	Awards week: winners in London for Awards Ceremony and related events.

Ashden
The Peak
5 Wilton Road
London
SW1V 1AP
telephone: +44 (0)20 7410 7023
email: ukapps@ashden.org
website: www.ashden.org