

The City of Edinburgh Council

10.00am, Thursday, 31 August 2023

The Edinburgh Award

Executive/routine
Wards

All Wards

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Council agrees the amendment to the Edinburgh Award nomination criteria as set out in paragraph 4.5 to this report.

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Report

The Edinburgh Award

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The nomination criteria for the Edinburgh Award have been reviewed by the Panel chaired by the Lord Provost. It is proposed to extend the pool of potential awardees by including individuals who have 'a substantial association with Edinburgh'.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Edinburgh Award was agreed by the Council in September 2006. This was to honour outstanding individuals who have made a positive impact on the capital and helped the city gain national and international recognition because of their work.
- 3.2 Since 2007 the Edinburgh Award has been bestowed upon individuals nominated by a cross section of individuals, community groups and businesses in the city.
- 3.3 The recipient is presented with an engraved Loving Cup at a ceremony hosted by the Lord Provost and has their handprints reproduced on a flagstone in the City Chambers quadrangle.
- 3.4 To broaden the range of nominees received, the Edinburgh Award Panel has reviewed the criteria that apply to the scheme.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Nominations for the Edinburgh Award are encouraged from a wide range of stakeholders, including individuals, community groups and businesses in the city. Nominations are submitted online via the Council website (and a Word document is available on request).
- 4.2 On closure of the nomination period, the Edinburgh Award recipient is selected by a Panel chaired by the Lord Provost. Members include the Leader of each political group on the Council, the Convener of the Culture and Communities Committee, the Chief Executive of the Chamber of Commerce and the Chief Executive of the Edinburgh Voluntary Organisation Council.
- 4.3 When the Panel met in May 2023, it was recognised that the existing criteria could be updated to include individuals who have a substantial association with Edinburgh.

- 4.4 Previously, some nominations received have been excluded due to individuals not fitting the criterion of having been born in or lived in Edinburgh, despite many having made a clear and significant contribution to the city.
- 4.5 As a result, the Panel agreed unanimously to update the first criterion to reflect this:
- was born in Edinburgh, has lived in the city for the past 12 months or has a **substantial association with Edinburgh**.
- 4.6 By agreeing this update to the criteria, the Council will be able to encourage and consider a broader range of nominations, whilst retaining the key focus of the Award on individuals who have gained national and international recognition for Edinburgh through their work.
- 4.7 The other criteria remain that the recipient:
- has not previously been awarded The Freedom of the City
 - is not a previous recipient of The Edinburgh Award; and
 - is not a serving politician.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The next step is to launch the 2023 Edinburgh Award nomination process, incorporating the proposed amended criteria.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The Edinburgh Award has an allocated annual budget of £10,000. This is met from the Events budget in Culture and Wellbeing. No further financial impact is expected from this report.

7. Equality and Poverty Impact

- 7.1 The update to the Edinburgh Award criteria allows a broader range of nominations to be submitted by the public. As such, it is expected to have a positive impact on equality.
- 7.2 There are no negative impacts on poverty expected to arise from this report.

8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications

- 8.1 There are no climate and nature emergency considerations arising from this report.

9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact

- 9.1 Nominations are sought from members of the public. A call for nominations is shared on the Council website, via press release and social media, and it is sent directly to a wide range of stakeholders, leading community representatives and business organisations.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 [The Edinburgh Award - Report to Council 2006](#)
10.2 [Council Website - Edinburgh Award](#)

11. Appendices

- 11.1 The Edinburgh Award Nomination Form is contained at appendix one to this report, which also identifies the previous recipients of the Award.



Nomination Form

Name of your nominee

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Nominee contact details (if known)

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Why do you think this person should receive the Edinburgh Award?

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How has this person made a positive impact on the city of Edinburgh in recent years?

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