



**The Scottish  
Knowledge Exchange  
Awards 2024**

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# THE SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AWARDS 2024

Is the flagship event that celebrates the partnerships between business, third sector or public sector organisations and academia. Now in its ninth year the annual event recognises, rewards, and celebrates the impacts achieved through these exciting collaborations which deliver economic, environmental and social prosperity for Scotland.

# WHY SHOULD YOU APPLY?

Previous award winners have reported the following benefits:

- Independent endorsement for; businesses, products, services and research impacts
- Peer recognition for students, early stage career researchers, academics, departments and institutions
- Showcase of innovative partnerships and processes
- Development of transferable skills and professional progression
- Inspire new projects, innovation and creativity
- Extended networks
- Increased brand recognition
- Media coverage





# CATEGORIES

**Innovation of the Year (Sponsored by HGF Ltd)**

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**Innovation of the Future**

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**Knowledge Exchange Champion (Sponsored by PraxisAuril)**

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**Knowledge Exchange Heroes**

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**Making a Social Difference (Sponsored by Community Enterprise In Scotland CEIS)**

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**Making an Environmental Difference (Sponsored by Zero Waste Scotland)**

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**Multiparty Collaboration**

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# INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

This award is given for an innovative product, process or service that has been developed by a business, public sector organisation or third sector over the past five years in conjunction with a university, college or research institute partner.



**“We are thrilled to receive this award and believe the project highlights the social and environmental benefits that can be derived from academic collaboration with social enterprise.”**

**Innovation of the Year Winner 2023**

Sean Kerr, Sustainable Thinking Scotland CIC



# INNOVATOR OF THE FUTURE

**Recognising an individual's contributions and impact to their field of research and / or organisation. This award is open to KTP Associates, Further Education and Higher Education students or Postgraduate students from research and teaching programmes.**

**“To anyone thinking of applying, I would say just go for it! Definitely make sure to show your enthusiasm and all the hard work you have been doing... Winning has helped expand my professional network and given me some great opportunities.”**

**Innovator of the Future Winner 2022**

Juliette Farrell





sponsored by PraxisAuril

# KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CHAMPION

Recognising an individual in academia (university, college or research institute), business, public sector organisation or third sector organisation who has made an outstanding contribution to Knowledge Exchange.



**“It’s tremendous and a huge honour to win the Knowledge Exchange Champion award. Not least for the range of things it recognises, but for its recognition of work in the arts and humanities.”**

**Knowledge Exchange Champion 2022**  
Professor Murray Pittock, University of Glasgow



# KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE HEROES

**Recognising an individual or team behind the scenes in an academic research & innovation or research and enterprise office, college, institute or department who have played a pivotal role in assisting knowledge exchange and industry and academic collaborations.**

**“I’m delighted for my team and, by extension, our business, academic, associate and professional service colleagues across the University, without whom none of this would have been possible. “**

**Knowledge Exchange Heroes Winner 2023**  
Dr Stuart McKay, Senior KTP Manager at UWS



 sponsored by Community Enterprise in Scotland  
CEIS

# MAKING A SOCIAL DIFFERENCE

Celebrating collaborative projects which have achieved significant social impacts that contribute towards a better and fairer future; ultimately promoting equality, diversity and inclusion.



“‘Making a difference’ is at the very heart of our mission... and reflects the University of Strathclyde’s commitment to make an impact through research. So it is an honour to have this partnership project celebrated in this way.”

## **Making a Social Difference Winner 2023**

Child Rights Coalition Asia, Terre des hommes and other partners with the University of Strathclyde’s Institute for Inspiring Children’s Futures



sponsored by Zero Waste Scotland

# MAKING AN ENVIRONMENTAL DIFFERENCE

Celebrating collaborative projects which have achieved significant environmental impacts that ultimately contribute towards a better and more sustainable future; tackling climate change challenges as well as positively contributing to the Scottish Government's ambitious net zero targets.

**“We are so pleased to win this recognition for our project. With the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issuing a final warning on irreversible climate change this week, we all need to work together now towards net zero”**

**Making an Environmental Difference Winner 2023**

Sophie Rippinger, Edinburgh Innovations



# MULTIPARTY COLLABORATION

Open to groups of three or more parties working together on an innovative research project; the group must include research partners from Scottish academia and at least one organisation. Applications should demonstrate innovation and impact as a result of working together and outline the unique approach to partnership to solve a common challenge.



**“Receiving this award is really exciting... It’s been a great recognition of the team that we’ve built up over the years. This is a great opportunity for us to reunite and celebrate!”**

## **Multiparty Collaboration Winner 2022**

Professor Vicky Stone, The Nano Safety Research Consortium with  
Heriot-Watt University

# HOW TO CREATE A WINNING ENTRY

We've pulled together a collection of top tips directly from previous judging panels. These insights aim to support you in creating an application that stands out from the crowd.





## READ THE QUESTION

When answering the question, start by identifying the key terms and phrases. Think about what is being asked and how this relates to your project. Remember, the judges want to hear about relevant aspects of your project in relation to the category, so make sure you're answering the question!



## THINK ABOUT YOUR AUDIENCE

Consider who will be reading your entry, the judges are not experts in your area of expertise so keep it simple, concise, clear and easy to understand. Use examples related to your project, avoid jargon, write out acronyms and clarify technical terms.



## MAKE IT A TEAM EFFORT

These awards celebrate collaboration and partnership so make sure that each of the parties involved in the collaborative project are involved in the award application.



## START EARLY

Don't leave it until the last minute and get your application in on time. By giving yourself ample time you can craft a stronger, more polished submission making sure that all collaborators have time to review and contribute.



## ATTENTION TO DETAIL

Proofreading is a critical step in the application process. It ensures that your application is free from errors, polished, and presents your project in the best possible light. Double-check all facts, figures, and dates in your application to ensure accuracy. Please also adhere to all word counts!



## BLOW YOUR OWN TRUMPET

Demonstrating genuine passion in your application can set you apart and make a compelling case for why you should receive the award. Explain what drives you and why you're deeply passionate about it. Be authentic and sincere in your storytelling. Now is not the time for modesty, it's a time to prove you're the best!







# HEAR FROM A SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AWARDS JUDGE



Having had the privilege to participate on a previous judging panel I wanted to share a few thoughts on what I think makes a great application...

When reviewing an application, the ones that stand out the most are those that provide succinct information on the background and context of the application.

This, coupled with clear statements of the partnerships, why they are involved, and the benefit it has had for them and their stakeholders or communities.

Information on the immediate impacts achieved and their lasting legacy are also most welcome. It is also very helpful to read about economic, social and other benefits, including any unforeseen ones, in the application.

**Andrew Youngson, Codebase**

Panel Judge for the Scottish Knowledge Exchange Awards 2023

# RECAP: SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AWARDS 2023

Watch the the highlights from last years awards ceremony to inspire you for this years awards!





# WHAT NEXT

**[Apply here](#) - visit our [website](#) to discover more information about the categories and download the application forms.**

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**Return completed applications by 5pm on Wednesday 6th December 2023**

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**The awards ceremony will be held on Thursday 14th March 2024, hosted by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow**

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**Royal Conservatoire  
of Scotland**