



NORTH WEST  
SOCIETY OF  
CHARTERED  
ACCOUNTANTS



accountancy  
and  
business  
awards

Sponsored by





### **Trainee Chartered Accountant of the Year**

Sponsored by the North West Chartered Accountants Students' Society and Norwest Recruit

This award recognises the profession's rising stars who are already making a mark in the early stages of their careers. It is open to all ICAEW students and members with less than one year's post qualification experience.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- Academic excellence.
- Commitment to professional development.
- Rapport amongst clients and within the organisation they work for.
- Engagement with the community.
- The desire to make a difference to their organisation and the clients with whom they work.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

### **Accountancy Firm of the Year – six partners and above**

Sponsored by Naphthens Solicitors

This award will go to the accountancy firm which can best demonstrate how it has developed its service portfolio to give a significant value-added range of support to a growing client base, giving them a competitive advantage.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- The firm's commitment to client service and client retention.
- Financial improvement over the last 12 months (basic financial statements should be included).
- Proven success at winning new clients.
- How the firm has developed an effective training and development programme to better meet the needs of its clients.
- Judges will additionally be looking for firms that have diversified their service portfolio to set themselves apart from the competition.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

### **Finance Director of the Year**

Sponsored by AFR Consulting

This award recognises professional excellence in management, leadership and innovation and is open to ICAEW members working in any field of industry and commerce, public sector, non-government public services, charities and other not-for-profit organisations. Judges will be looking for individuals who have made a real difference to their organisation.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- Innovation and leadership.
- Strategic financial management.
- Creativity and problem solving.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

### **NWSCA Accountancy Personality of the Year**

Forget X Factor – have you got the NWSCA Factor? The region's accountancy profession is made up of a range of diverse and gregarious personalities and this year the winner will be decided by the audience.

The shortlisted candidates will ALL be asked to perform a humorous acceptance speech on the night in front of the live audience. The guests will then decide on the winner through our interactive voting system.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award.

### **Accountancy Firm of the Year – five partners or less**

Sponsored by Naphthens Solicitors

This award recognises the contribution made by smaller accountancy practices within the region. The successful firm will have demonstrated an ability to deliver a highly professional service to clients.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- The firm's commitment to client service and client retention.
- Financial improvement over the last 12 months (basic financial statements should be included).
- Proven success at winning new clients.
- Evidence of an effective staff training and development programme.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

### **Special Recognition Award for Charitable Work**

Sponsored by The Chartered Accountants Benevolent Association

This new award recognises the enormous amount of charitable work that is done by local individuals and organisations. Every year, millions of pounds are raised for good causes through the unselfish generosity of countless people who also give their time volunteering to help people in need. The judges are looking for nominations for individuals or organisations who have delivered significant benefits to those less fortunate than themselves.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- A broad description of the project and the benefits it brings.
- How the nominee's contribution has made a difference to the project.
- Evidence of innovation, inspiration and/or leadership.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

## Emerging Business of the Year

Sponsored by Taylor Patterson

This award recognises the outstanding performance of a dynamic business over the past 12-18 months. It is open to all companies which have been in existence for five years or less on July 1 2008.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- Successful realisation of a business plan.
- Unique and innovative approaches.
- Business growth and performance.
- Sustainable growth.
- Sound business strategies and practices.
- Commitment to customer care.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

## Outstanding Business Personality of the Year

Sponsored by Freshfield

This award recognises the exceptional individual who delivered an outstanding contribution to the Lancashire and Cumbria business community.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- Regional pride: How the nominee's company has become a business icon of the NWSCA region.
- Economic and employment contribution.
- How the nominee led a team which has delivered sustained results.
- Flair and entrepreneurship.
- Vision: Development of an idea, product, service or market and how the nominee made it a success.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

## O2 Award for Innovation through Technology

Sponsored by O2

Technology plays an increasingly important role in business and industry and this new award will celebrate the spirit of innovation in the region. The award is open to companies from all sectors that can demonstrate how they have driven their business forward through the innovative use of technology.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- Effective use of technology to devise or deliver a product, service or business improvement.
- Evidence of establishing a culture of innovation in the workplace.
- Commitment to research and development.
- Commitment to staff training and development.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

## Outstanding Woman in Business Award

Sponsored by Business Link Northwest

This new award pays tribute to the many women who are making their mark within their own organisation and on business life in the region. The judges will consider nominations from business owners, directors or professionals - such as accountants, bankers or lawyers.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- What obstacles the individual has overcome to become a success in business.
- How the individual has juggled work/life balances.
- Having a vision for a new idea, product, service or market and how she followed that through.
- How the individual grew a winning team and led them to deliver outstanding results.
- How the nominee has developed the financial performance of the organisation.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

## Intermediary of the Year

Sponsored by Lancashire Business View

The accountancy profession does not work in isolation and interacts with a range of professionals from other disciplines to provide the breadth of support that their clients need. This award is open to individuals such as lawyers, bankers, corporate financiers, IFAs, consultants, insolvency practitioners, venture capitalists and marketeers.

The nominees will have excelled within the professional services community and will have a demonstrable track record of going the extra mile on a variety of projects.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

## Yorkshire Bank Business of the Year

Sponsored by Yorkshire Bank

This award is the one they all want to win and is one of the most respected among the business world in the North West. It is open to all companies, regardless of sector or size, and will go to the outstanding organisation that can best demonstrate a heady cocktail of exceptional financial performance, strong growth and vision and can display how putting customers and staff at the heart of its business makes sound commercial sense.

The following will be considered when judging this award:

- Continued financial and business growth.
- Innovation and leadership in its market sector.
- Sales, marketing and customer relations excellence.
- Commitment to employee welfare.
- An understanding of and commitment to corporate responsibility.

For the first stage of judging, you are invited to write a 500 word (approx) rationale as to why the candidate should win this award, using the above criteria as a framework.

