

Welcome

Scott Knowles DL

Chief Executive – East Midlands Chamber

The King's Award for Enterprise

Agenda

- **Welcome** Scott Knowles DL
- **Awards Introduction** Marvin Cooke OBE DL
- **Interview with recipients** Mark Goldby DL
- **Top tips** Peter Ellse DL
- **Q&A** Eileen Perry MBE DL
- **Find out more** Marvin Cooke OBE DL
- **Close** Scott Knowles DL

Awards Introduction

Marvin Cooke OBE DL

KAE Panel Chair - Derbyshire

The King's Awards for Enterprise

- The most prestigious awards for UK businesses since 1965
- Created by The Duke of Edinburgh for HM Queen Elizabeth II
- King Charles III continued Queen Elizabeth's legacy by giving His Majesty's name to prestigious awards
- The name change reflects His Majesty The King's desire to continue recognising and promoting outstanding business



Awards

The King's Awards for Enterprise are awarded in the following categories:

- Innovation
- International Trade
- Sustainability
- Promoting Opportunity (through social mobility)
- Young Founder (*New for 2027 round*)

The UK is full of **exciting and innovative** businesses and The King's Awards for Enterprise is a great way of celebrating their success.

These awards are a **prestigious way to recognise your contribution to enterprise.**

The King's Awards for Enterprise are open to applications from **almost all businesses and non-profits, of almost all sizes throughout the UK in every sector.**



Myth Busting

Statistics



Circa 200 Awards per year



85 - 90% of recipients are SMEs



Typically, around 15% are micro businesses

(less than 10 employees)



King's Awards Recipients 2025

Category Breakdown



116 International Trade



46 Innovation



27 Sustainability



**10 Promoting Opportunity
(through Social Mobility)**

(2026 recipients will be announced on 6th May 2026)



Benefits of receiving an Award

Key Benefits of the King's Awards:

- The most prestigious UK business honours
- A strong signal of trust and credibility
- Opens doors to new opportunities
- Use of the Royal Emblem for five years
- Boosts staff morale
- Positive media exposure
- Invitation to a Royal Reception
- **Recipients often report:**
 - Sales and business growth
 - Access to new clients and markets
 - Greater global recognition
 - Ability to attract and retain top talent
 - Enhanced trust and credibility
 - Valuable advice (through the process)

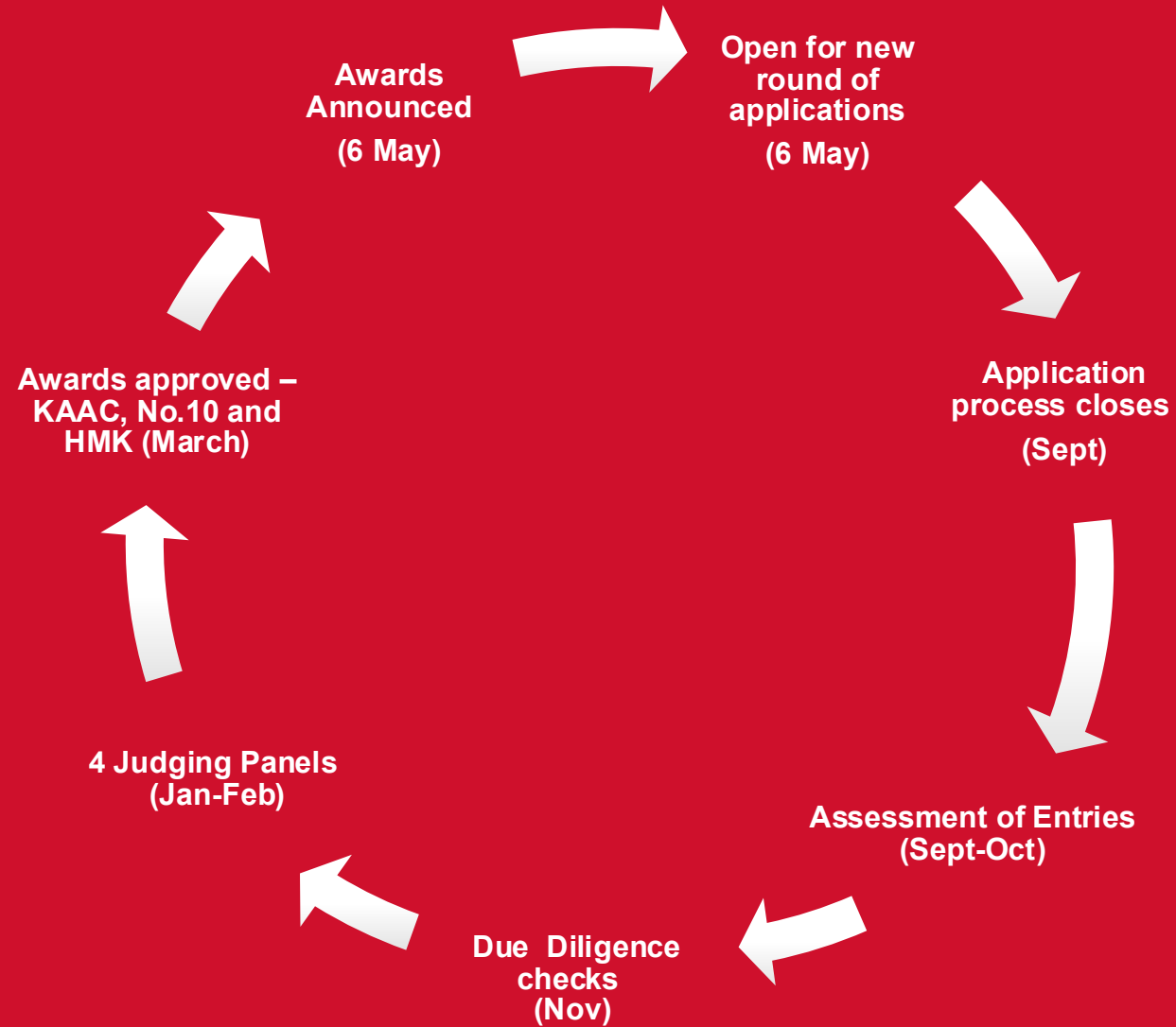


Celebrating Success

Please give pictures me you would like adding



Awards Cycle



Initial Eligibility Criteria

The organisation must:

- Be based in the UK
- Have a good, continuous compliance record with HM Revenue and Customs
- Be a self-contained enterprise under its own management and complete its own accounts
- Have at least two full-time UK employees or part-time equivalents
- Demonstrate strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) behaviours



International Trade Eligibility Criteria

To apply for the International Trade award, you must also:

- Have made a minimum of £100,000 in overseas sales in the first year of your entry and show year-on-year growth
- Prove that your organisation has achieved outstanding growth in overseas earnings relative to your business size and sector
- Prove steep year-on-year growth (without dips) in overseas sales over 3 years or substantial year-on-year growth (without dips) over 6 years



Innovation Eligibility Criteria

To apply for the Innovation award, you must:

- have an innovation that has not been sold before
- have had your innovation available on the market for at least 2 years
- have recovered all the investments made in your innovation or show that the innovation will recover its full costs in future
- Show outstanding commercial success because of an innovation from 2 up to 5 years

Your innovation should be in one of the following categories:

- invention, design or production of goods
- performance of services
- marketing and distribution
- after-sale support of goods or services



Sustainability Eligibility Criteria

To apply for the Sustainability Award, you must:

- Demonstrate outstanding sustainability commitment and achievements for more than two years
- Provide evidence of the positive outcomes and impacts of your decisions and actions
- Showcase your organisation's sustainable vision and strategy.

Key themes: Organisational vision and strategy, Environmental sustainability, Social sustainability, Economic sustainability, Governance and accountability



Promoting Opportunity Eligibility Criteria

To apply for this award, your organisation must have a programme that supports people from disadvantaged backgrounds in improving their job skills and their chances of finding work.

- Businesses with a social mobility programme or intervention
- Subsidiaries of business with a social mobility focus

Organisations cannot apply for the Promoting Opportunity category if social mobility is the main focus of their organisation.

- However, training providers or educational organisations can apply if they are making a joint application with another organisation
- Training providers or educational organisations can also apply if they have social mobility initiatives related to their own workforce



Young Founder Eligibility Criteria

- **Evidence of commercial success or growth potential**, such as a turnover of £250K, or external funding (i.e. investments, loans, grants) totalling £500K.
- **The founder must be aged 18–30** at the time the Award is granted (6 May 2027) and must be actively leading the business during the application period.

Applications will be assessed across five themes:

- **Fresh Ideas & Creative Thinking**: A short video outlining the founder's journey, from idea to impact.
- **Driving Growth & Industry Influence**: Business performance over the past 1–2 years and any recognition as a thought leader.
- **Leading & Inspiring**: The company's long-term vision and how it is implemented; mentoring or ecosystem contributions.
- **Strategic Resilience**: Examples of challenges faced and how the business adapted.
- **Customer Value**: How customer satisfaction is measured and used to improve products or services.



How to apply

- Almost all **UK businesses** (including non-profit) can apply
- The application process is **free**
- All applications must be made **online**
- You may apply for **more than one** category
- Applications for the 2027 King's Awards for Enterprise open on **6 May until early September 2026.**
- Eligibility criteria and more information on how to apply is here **www.gov.uk/kings-awards-for-enterprise**



Hear from Previous recipients

Mark Goldby DL

KAE Panel Chair – Nottinghamshire

Pino de Rosa
Nadeem Raza
Emily Bliss

Bridgeway Consulting
Mircolise
Micheal Smith Switchgear

Top Tips

Peter Ellse DL

KAE Panel Co - Chair – Derbyshire
CEO Cosy Direct

Top Tips

- *Study the Criteria, check with us if unsure*
- *Data is a key anchor - evidence*
- *Telling YOUR story is another key anchor*
- *Evidence & triangulate your point externally & internally*
- *Appoint a critical friend*
- *Give different people different parts to complete*
- *Say it once, say it well. Word counts – maximums not targets*
- *A Marathon not a sprint. Giving you space and time to focus*
- *You will never get better free consultancy than this*
- *Have you been clearly memorable?*
- *Welcome to one of the most exclusive clubs in the world*

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CabinZero Ltd
Cellomatics Biosciences Ltd
CMS Cepcor Ltd
Cofresh Snack Foods
Cosy Direct
David Nieper Ltd
DEA Aviation Ltd
Devol Kitchens Ltd
Doff Portland Ltd
Donald Ward (Ward)
EarthSense Systems Ltd

Elcom Ltd
Flair Flooring
Flexeserve
G. H. Hurt & Son Ltd
Garnalex
GeoPura Ltd
Global Brands
Halliday Lighting Ltd
Halo Solutions Ltd
Heraeus Electro-nite
Horiba Mira Ltd
HSG
HUUB
Imagesound
InSight Analytics Solutions Ltd
M-Mover Holdings Ltd
MasterMover Ltd
McGhee Investments
Michael Smith Switchgear Ltd
Midland Aerospace Ltd

Midland Lead
Nimbus: The Disability Consultancy Service
NMS International Group Ltd
Novametrics Ltd
Oncimmune Holdings Plc
Peak NDT
PR Marriott Drilling
Qdos Contractor
Structural Adhesives Ltd
SureScreen Diagnostics Ltd.
Total Saddle Solutions Ltd
Trade & DIY Products Ltd
UCB
Unimed Procurement Services Ltd
Upbeat Clean
Upperton Ltd
Urban Apothecary Ltd
Whitehouse Constructions
Winbro Group Technologies Ltd
Zeeko Ltd

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Q&A

Eileen Perry MBE DL

MD - ER Recruitment

Find out more ...

Lieutenancy contact:

<i>Nottinghamshire:</i>	Mark Goldby:	mpg@qinesis.com
<i>Derbyshire:</i>	Marvin Cooke:	ma.cooke43@gmail.com
<i>Leicestershire:</i>	Ian Borley:	ian.borleyconsulting@gmail.com

Join an in-person event near you

- *Meet those who can support you*
- *Network with current recipients*
- *Get the latest information and even more top tips*

Live Events Near You - Derbyshire



Chesterfield Borough Council - Dunston Innovation Centre May 20th 10:00 - 12:30

In the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/>



University of Derby – Cavendish Building June 2nd time 08:00 – 10:00

In the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire.

Live Events Near You - Nottinghamshire



At the multiple King's Award winner:
Microlise plc
Eastwood
Nottinghamshire

Thursday 21st May (08:00-10:30)

In the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire.

Close

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