



Y Gwobrau
The Accolades



Gofal Cymdeithasol **Cymru**
Social Care **Wales**

2018 ACCOLADES INFORMATION PACK



THE ACCOLADES ARE BACK!

Last held in 2015, the Accolades are awards that recognise, celebrate and share excellent practice by organisations, groups or teams in social work, social care, early years and childcare.

So, this is your chance to shine and share your achievements with colleagues across Wales if you work in any form of care and support in the public, independent or voluntary sectors.

For 2018, we are looking for projects or initiatives that:

- have had a positive effect on people's lives
- take equality, diversity and language preference into account when meeting people's needs
- support staff development, and
- encourage service improvement by, for example, introducing new models or increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

Read on and find out which of the eight categories you might be able to enter.





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WHAT ARE THE ACCOLADES?

The Accolades are awards that recognise, celebrate and share excellent practice in social work, social care, early years and childcare across Wales.

In 2018, the Accolades will be awarded to teams, groups or organisations that have:

- had a positive impact on people's lives
- taken equality, diversity and language preference into account when meeting people's care and support needs
- supported staff development
- encouraged service improvement by introducing new models or increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

Winning an Accolade showcases your achievements, and is an opportunity to share your best practice and what you have learned with others. Your efforts in meeting people's needs and having a worthwhile impact on their lives will also present a positive image of social work, social care, early years and childcare to the public.



WHO CAN ENTER THE ACCOLADES?

The Accolades are open to any team, group or organisation that provides social work, social care, early years and childcare in Wales.

We are looking for applications from every area, from the voluntary, private or statutory sectors. The service you provide can be residential or community-based, large or small. You can be working with children or adults. Good practice examples for the Accolades are welcome from any part of the sector.

Sometimes people don't realise how impressive their work is, so if you know of a project or initiative that's eligible, no matter how big or small, please pass this information onto them and encourage them to enter.



WHY SHOULD MY TEAM/GROUP/ORGANISATION ENTER?

The Accolades are a chance for you to celebrate and shine a light on your success. There are lots of benefits of entering the Accolades:

For your team/group/organisation

- recognition of your achievements
- showing and sharing good practice
- increase in staff morale and a sense of pride
- increase in confidence and a sense of pride among those who use your services
- a greater profile and highlighting the effectiveness of your team/group/organisation.

For the sector

- adopting and sharing new ideas
- identifying effective improvement methods and processes
- recognition of projects or initiatives, achievements and good practice
- demonstrating a positive effect on people's lives
- taking equality, diversity and language preference into account when meeting people's needs
- supporting staff development
- encouraging service improvement
- improving the image of social work, social care, early years and childcare.





HOW DO I ENTER THE ACCOLADES?

Entering is easy:

1. Download the entry form from the Social Care Wales website.
2. Make it clear which category you are entering – please note you can only enter one category per entry form. If you want to enter two or more categories, you must submit separate entry forms for each one.
3. Complete every section of the entry form and provide a summary of your project or initiative.
4. If you want to, you can also provide a visual representation of your project or initiative.
5. Use evidence from your work to explain the answers you give on the form.
6. Make sure you have read and understood the rules of entry.
7. Complete your entry form and send it back to us by **5pm on 9 February 2018**.

Please note, the judges reserve the right to transfer your entry to a different category if they feel it is appropriate. We will not accept any supplementary materials other than a visual representation of your project or initiative.

Please see the rules and conditions on page 9 for more information.

All entries need to provide evidence of:

- the positive impact they've had on citizens
- how they've taken equality, diversity and Welsh language preference into account when meeting people's care and support needs
- how they support staff development
- how they encourage service improvement – for example, by introducing a new model or increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE ACCOLADES

Closing date for entries: 5pm, 9 February 2018

Notification of shortlisted entries: 23 March 2018

Judges visits to shortlisted entries: between 9 April and 4 May 2018

Finalists announced: 1 June 2018

Lunchtime awards ceremony at City Hall, Cardiff: 13 September 2018



HOW WILL THE ACCOLADES BE JUDGED?

The judging panel is made up of members of Social Care Wales's board, as well as representatives from a range of national bodies such as ADSS Cymru, BASW Cymru, Care Forum Wales, Children in Wales, Health and Care Research Wales, the National Adoption Service, the National Independent Safeguarding Board, NHS Confederation, WCVA, the Welsh Local Government Association and the Workforce, Education and Development Service.

The judging takes place in two parts. The judges will initially agree a shortlist of the highest scoring entries. The judges will then visit each of the shortlisted entries before making their final decision and selecting the finalists and winners for each category. The important dates for the judging process are shown on page 5.

The Code of Professional Practice for Social Care (the Code) will be used as a benchmark for all entries to make sure they meet the standards of professional conduct and practice required of social care workers. It is important you are aware of the standards required and make sure your staff know the behaviour employers, colleagues, people who receive care and support, carers and the public expect of them.

You can view the Code at:

socialcare.wales/resources/code-of-professional-practice-for-social-care

CATEGORIES

There are eight categories of awards. Each category relates to an important aspect of social work, social care, early years and childcare.

Please remember that you must show how your project or initiative meets the following criteria:

- positively impacts citizens
- supports staff development
- encourages service improvement – for example, by introducing new models or increasing efficiency and effectiveness
- makes sure equality, diversity and language preference are addressed when meeting people's needs.

The examples provided for each of the categories on pages 7 to 8 are for illustrative purposes only and should not limit your entry.

The judges will be looking for evidence that your entry is relevant to the category you have entered.



THE ENTRY CATEGORIES

1 Citizen-led services

- models where people who receive care and support, their families and communities work together to design and provide the care and support that's needed
- care and support are shaped by those who use them, so they better meet their needs
- learning and development, led by people who receive care and support or carers, that's had a major effect on staff who provide care and support.

2 Better outcomes by learning and working together

- examples of modernising the workforce across organisational boundaries to improve outcomes
- learning or training across professional boundaries that's resulted in different services working together effectively within the community
- better, sustainable services because of community working.

3 Effective approaches to safeguarding

- evidence of how the voices of victims of abuse have helped improve practice
- how multi-professional learning and development has improved safeguarding skills
- examples of new services that have prevented or reduced harm, or provided better support to people who have been harmed.

4 Developing a confident and sustainable workforce

- examples of better recruitment and/or retention in social work, social care or early years and childcare
- developments that help practitioners add to their qualifications and existing skills
- successful projects or initiatives that have encouraged people to choose social work, social care or early years as a career
- examples of projects or initiatives aimed at reaching under-represented groups.



5

Excellent outcomes for people of all ages by investing in the learning and development of staff

- examples of how investing in staff learning and development has led to better services for people of all ages, whether at home or in other settings
- new ways of working by staff that support independent living and well-being
- evidence of developing leadership skills in new or existing managers.

6

Use of new technology to improve services

- where new technology has helped improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of care and support provided
- ways in which new technology has been introduced to people who use services to improve their independence and well-being
- learning and development that have made workers more skilled in the use of new technology in their day-to-day work.

7

Use of data and research to support prevention, early intervention and effectiveness

- how evidence of what's needed has been used to prevent demand or has resulted in earlier intervention to reduce demand
- how knowledge from research about what works well has been used to improve care and support
- examples of how people who receive care and support have contributed to research
- ways in which the collection of data has been improved, to help with service or workforce planning
- examples of how citizens' voices are being captured, to inform the design of care and support.

8

Innovative and creative solutions – sharing your experiences

- examples of new ways of practice being tested and how you find out if they are working
- examples of creative ways to improve well-being and what has been learned so far
- evidence of how practice has been changed because the existing way of working is not producing the expected results
- evidence of supporting people who receive care and support to achieve what matters to them.



ENTRY RULES

- entry is free
- you must complete each section of the entry form
- judges will only consider information included on the entry form and the visual representation of the project or initiative (including a visual representation is optional and judges will consider submissions that do not include a visual representation)
- apart from the above, other supplementary material will not be considered
- you must make sure you stick to the word limits provided – any entries that exceed the word limits will not be considered
- you must provide full contact details of someone within your team, group or organisation
- some of the work involved in your entry must have taken place in 2016/17
- your team, group or organisation must be based in Wales
- we will not send you confirmation that we've received your entry
- it will not be possible to return your entry
- the Accolades are open to teams, groups or organisations from the social work, social care, early years and childcare sectors in Wales
- you should refer to the Code of Professional Practice for Social Care and be aware of the standards of professional conduct and practice required of social care workers
- you should include any references that show how you comply with the Welsh Language Act and provide equal opportunities.



All completed entries must be submitted by **5pm** on **9 February 2018**.



PUBLICITY

- your team, group or organisation must agree to names and images being used for promotional and publicity purposes relating to the Accolades, and the social work, social care, early years and childcare sectors
- all finalists will have a short film made of their project or initiative, which will be shown at the awards ceremony. Filming is likely to take place during June 2018 and all finalists will be expected to make people available for the filming. You will be given more information and an indication of when filming will take place when finalists are announced
- all finalists could receive publicity in the media in Wales
- your entry may be used to publicise the Accolades and help others learn from your work.



JUDGING

- the finalists and winners will be chosen by the judging panel
- the members of the judging panel cannot have any connection to the projects or initiatives entered for the Accolades
- the Accolades' organisers and judges cannot correspond with entrants about issues related to the judging process
- the judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into
- shortlisted projects or initiatives must be able to accept a visit by the judges between 9 April and 4 May 2018

THE CEREMONY AND AWARDS

- entrants should be available to attend the lunchtime Accolades awards ceremony on 13 September 2018 at City Hall in Cardiff
- the finalists will be told how many places their team, group or organisation will have at the awards ceremony
- trophies will be awarded to the winners of each category and certificates awarded to all the finalists
- teams, groups or organisations will need to accept the award or certificate in person
- representatives for non-attendees will need to be identified in advance
- attendees will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses
- there will be no cash awards or equivalent
- if, either before or after an Accolades award is presented, it emerges the entrant has breached the rules, the judges may disqualify the entrant. If this happens, the trophy and certificate must be returned promptly.

