**Call for judges for the Youth Work Excellence Awards 2019**

Following on from an exciting Youth Work Excellence Awards 2018, we are getting ready for the 2019 nominations. One of the essential elements of this will be ensuring we have our team of judges primed and ready to go. Building on the fantastic work of previous judges and a range of feedback, we are broadening the requirements for judging this year to enable a more diverse range of people to get involved.

What are we looking for?

We are looking for a mix of people who can demonstrate experience of being actively engaged with youth work in Wales today. Some of these people will be practicing youth workers with a range of years experience; others may no longer be practicing, but are still engaged with youth work and are committed to helping to take forward the Youth Work Excellence Awards in Wales. We are also hoping to have a mix of experienced judges and new judges.

Not everybody who expresses an interest will be selected, as we are looking for a varied judging panel.

What is involved?

The judging process is not an easy one! On average we have close to 100 applications with each application needing to be scored by the individual judges prior to discussion with panel members during judging meetings. During these meetings, the panel will agree scoring and our finalists and overall winners.

**All applications are confidential and judges must not discuss any of the applications outside of the judging meetings. They will be asked to sign confidentiality agreements prior to being sent judging packs.**

The judging meetings will take place on **26th and 27th March 2019**, venue TBC, however on the day it is likely that following an initial bench marking session, the judges will be split into groups to discuss separate nomination categories. **No judge will be allowed to consider any category they have entered.** **People who are not able to commit to these dates should not put themselves forward.**

In order that the process runs smoothly within the time allowed, all judges will be provided with their nomination packs and sift forms two weeks ahead of judging taking place, and will be asked to attend on the day having read and scored all the applications provided.

Welsh Government will provide overnight accommodation and meals in between judging days, along with overnight accommodation for those people who are not able to travel for a 9.30am start on the first day.

Next steps

Are you interested? If so please complete this form and return to youthworkexcellenceawards@gov.wales **by 17 December 2019**

***Please note by completing this form you are consenting to us storing your information on Welsh Government electronic systems and sharing with third parties for award planning purposes. You are also agreeing for us to store your information to contact you for potential judging of future awards.***

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| **Name** |  |
| **Address, e-mail contact, and telephone number** |  |
| **Organisation** |  |
| **Voluntary/Statutory Sector** | Voluntary / Statutory |
| **What is your background in Youth Work (no more than 100 words):** |  |
| **Are you a qualified youth worker?** | Yes/No |
| **If yes for how long?** | 1-4 years5-10 years10 years plus |
| **Why do you want to be a judge for the Youth Work Excellence Awards?** |  |
| **Are you a previous winner or judge** | Previous winner / Previous judge |
| **Do you have line management approval for the time commitment needed?** |  |
| **Can you confirm your commitment to read the applications ahead of the meeting and to spend two full days judging?**  |  |
| **Signed by** |  |