

CHESHIRE BEST KEPT STATIONS NOMINATED AWARDS 2019

The Cheshire Best Kept Stations Awards are again taking place this year. Our judges are out visiting the stations of Cheshire to see the good work that is being done across the county. These 'mystery shopper' visits will form the basis for many of the awards that we will be presenting next January. Let us know what you are doing over the summer; send in your photographs and comments via our website or by Facebook.

We are also inviting nominations for the following categories of Awards as the extent of some activities may not be readily revealed by 'mystery shopper' visits. These are your opportunities to tell us about what you are doing in detail:

Youth Challenge Award

This Award recognises the importance of engaging children and young people in work that can positively influence and educate on the railway. Projects could include educational projects relevant to school/college curricula, station environmental schemes, sustainable travel or railway safety.

Guidelines

- Informative, educational or awareness raising
- Improving mobility, confidence or life-skills
- Engaging, enjoyable and constructive
- Interactive and drew on participants input

Art Projects Award

This Award recognises art schemes that can have a transformational effect not only on the stations themselves but also in building positive relations between the railway and the community that it serves, generating local pride and bringing people together in creative activity.

Guidelines

- Visually pleasing outcome for the station
- Promotes positivity, celebrating the railway and the community
- Interaction and engagement with the community
- Benefits station users, community and participants

Community Award

This Award recognises the vital importance of engaging the local community, not just for one-off events but also longer term relationship building and work within communities. This requires creativity, enthusiasm and plain hard work in organising and running community engagement.

Guidelines

- Successful engagement with the community
- Enjoyable, constructive and beneficial
- Informative, awareness raising and promotes interest in railway
- Interaction with local people

Campaign & Communications Award

This Award recognises the efforts and achievements of a station / community group in campaigning for station facilities/ improvements, train services at their station, or a thematic campaign such as the Environment as an example. This award also covers the use of communications and marketing activity to promote the Group and its activities or as part of a campaign.

Guidelines

- What was the need / issue and how was it defined?
- To what extent does the community and passengers engage with your group and its work?
- What campaigning / lobbying activities with rail industry and other stakeholders were carried out? How engaging and constructive were they?
- How did you communicate with your audiences and market yourselves? What imaginative or innovative methods were used?
- What outcomes have been achieved by submission date? What has been the involvement and reaction of the community? What future plans are still to be delivered?

Who can enter?

Station Friends / Adoption Groups, other Community or Voluntary Groups and Community Rail Partnerships. We also invite nominations from rail industry colleagues such as Train Operators and Network Rail and they will specifically need to demonstrate the involvement of station, community or voluntary groups in the project.

How to enter

Entries should be submitted by email to nominations@bestkeptstations.org.uk and should be no more than 2 sides of A4 text. Up to six high resolution images or a video clip may also be submitted, the images can be embedded in the written document or submitted as separate files. Submitting good images helps us to see what you have been doing and may be used in the Awards Presentation.

When to enter

Entries should be submitted no later than 17.00 on **Monday 30th September 2019** and cover activities that have taken place or have been completed between 1st September 2018 and the deadline date.