

2026 NORTHERN
POWER
WOMEN AWARDS

NOMINATION GUIDE

Co-Headline Partners:



#NPWAwards
#WeAre**POWER**

CONTENTS PAGE

- 1 Nominator Information**
For individual nominations
- 2 Nominator Information**
For organisation nominations
- 3 Category Descriptions**
- 4 Category Breakdown**
(Public Spotlight/Empowerment Champion/Agent of Change)
- 5 Category Breakdown**
(Disruptor for Good/Inclusive Innovation: Tech for Good & People Focused)
- 6 Category Breakdown**
(Mentor of the Year/Outstanding Entrepreneur/One To Watch)
- 7 Category Breakdown**
(Person With Purpose: Charity/CIC, Private Organisation & Public Service)
- 8 Category Breakdown**
(Micro Organisation/SME/Large Organisation)
- 9 Game Changer Descriptions**
- 10 Game Changer Lists Breakdown**
(PoWEr List/Future List/Advocacy List)

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

INDIVIDUAL NOMINATIONS

Each of our categories has its own unique description and criteria for nomination, but all nominees must be individuals who are actively contributing to a more gender-equal and equitable world, and who are driving lasting, positive change.

Please ensure you have all the correct details when submitting your nomination(s). When you have submitted your nomination, your nominee will be notified and asked to respond to the questions corresponding to the category you have nominated them for.

You can choose to nominate anonymously, meaning your name won't be shared with the nominee. You can also opt to keep the reason for the nomination confidential if you wish.

You can nominate as many different individuals or organisations as you'd like.

Your nominee needs to fulfil at least one of the below criteria:

- They live in the North
- They are from the North
- They work in the North
- They work for an organisation in the North

You will need to select an Award Category or Game Changer List that you are nominating the individual for:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| • Agent of Change | • PoWEr List |
| • Disruptor for Good | • Future List |
| • Empowerment Champion | • Advocacy List |
| • Mentor of the Year | |
| • Outstanding Entrepreneur | |
| • One to Watch | |
| • Person with Purpose | |
| • Public Spotlight | |

What you need to provide (*mandatory):

- Nominee First Name *
- Nominee Surname *
- Nominee Company / Organisation *
- Nominee Job Title *
- Nominee Email * (not needed for Public Spotlight)
- Relationship to you *
- Why you want to nominate this person *

#NPWAwards
#WEAREPoWEr

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

ORGANISATION NOMINATIONS

Each of our categories has its own unique description and criteria for nomination, but all organisations must be actively contributing to a more gender-equal and equitable world, and driving lasting, positive change.

Please ensure you have all the correct details when submitting your nomination(s). When you have submitted your nomination, your nominee will be notified and asked to respond to the questions corresponding to the category you have nominated their organisation for.

You can choose to nominate anonymously, meaning your name won't be shared with the nominee. You can also opt to keep the reason for the nomination confidential if you wish.

You can nominate as many different individuals or organisations as you'd like.

Your nominee needs to fulfil at least one of the below criteria:

- They are based in the North
- They have an office in the North
- They were founded in the North

You will need to select a category that you are nominating the team/group/organisation for:

- Inclusive Innovation
- Micro Organisation
- SME
- Large Organisation

What you need to provide (*mandatory):

- Nominee Company / Organisation Name*
- Individual Email Address* (who will respond on behalf of organisation)
- Relationship to you *
- Why you want to nominate the organisation *

#NPWAwards
#WEAREPOWER

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

All categories open to all genders

Each of our categories has its own unique description and criteria for nomination, but all nominees must be individuals/organisations who are actively contributing to a more gender-equal and equitable world, and who are driving lasting, positive change.

Public Spotlight

The public figure or team who use their voice to support important causes, inspire action, and create positive change for a more inclusive world.

Empowerment Champion

The individual who goes out of their way to open doors for others, puts people forward, and helps them build self-belief. They do this outside of their job role and are unsung heroes.

Agent of Change

The individual who is personally committed to creating meaningful and lasting change in gender equality, equity and wider inclusivity through leading the way for others whilst making lasting impact.

Disruptor for Good

The individual who is constantly breaking down barriers, standing up for inequality and shaking things up to make a positive future for others.

Inclusive Innovation

The group, team, service, product, or organisation that is breaking new ground with a bold innovation that drives equality, inclusion, diversity and empowers others to contribute to and benefit from game changing ideas that create lasting social impact..

This award is split into two sub-categories:

- ***Tech for good***
- ***People focused***

Mentor of the Year

The individual who shares their knowledge, expertise and experience to help their mentees develop skills, make decisions and achieve their goals. Awarded to the individual who has positively influenced the success of others outside of their day job.

Outstanding Entrepreneur

Organisation must have been incorporated for at least 12 months

The entrepreneur, who is driven with a passion and purpose to grow and develop their organisation(s) to achieve success whilst making a positive impact.

One to Watch

The individual that stands out from the crowd, going above and beyond the expectations of their day job by creating impact with a commitment to championing equity, equality and inclusivity.

Person with Purpose

The individual who is driven by a genuine desire and purpose to create real change across and from the North and beyond to better the lives of both individuals and communities.

This award is split into three sub-categories:

- ***Charity/CIC/Cause***
- ***Private Sector***
- ***Public Sector***

Micro Organisation

1-10 employees

The organisation that is driven with purpose to grow, develop and succeed. The award recognises organisations that are creating an inclusive workplace whilst making a positive impact.

Small/Medium Organisation

11 – 250 employees

The organisation that is driven with purpose to grow, develop and succeed. The award recognises organisations that are creating an inclusive workplace whilst making a positive impact.

Large Organisation

251+ employees

The organisation that is driven with purpose to grow, develop and succeed. The award recognises organisations that are creating an inclusive workplace whilst making a positive impact.

#NPWAwards

#WEAREPOWER

CATEGORY BREAKDOWN

Public Spotlight

Open to all genders

The public figure or team who use their voice to support important causes, inspire action, and create positive change for a more inclusive world.

Please attach supporting evidence in the form of:

- Social Media Platforms
- YouTube Videos
- Articles

If possible, please provide a best contact email within your nomination.

Empowerment Champion

Open to all genders

The individual who goes out of their way to open doors for others, puts people forward, helps build self-belief. They do this outside of their job role and are unsung heroes.

Nominee questions:

- What have you done to empower others? (Max. 350 words)
- What impact has this had? (Max. 350 words)
- What are you focused on making happen in the next year in terms of empowering others? (Max. 200 words)

Agent of Change

Open to all genders

The individual who is personally committed to creating meaningful and lasting change in gender equality, equity and wider inclusivity through leading the way for others whilst making lasting impact.

Nominee questions:

- Tell us about your key successes and their impact (Max.300 words)
- What motivates you? (Max.300 words)
- If you win this award, how will you use it to inspire future change? (Max.300 words)

CATEGORY BREAKDOWN

Disruptor for Good

Open to all genders

The individual who is constantly breaking down barriers, standing up for inequality and shaking things up to make a positive future for others.

Nominee questions:

- What is your motivation? (Max. 200 words)
- How have you broken down barriers? (Max. 200 words)
- What impact has this had? (Max. 200 words)
- Who has benefitted from your efforts? (Max. 200 words)
- What's next? (Max. 150 words)

Inclusive Innovation: People Focused

Organisation category

The group, team, service, product, or organisation that is breaking new ground with a bold innovation that drives equality, inclusion, diversity and empowers others to contribute to and benefit from game changing ideas that create lasting social impact

Nominee questions:

- Describe your innovation (Max.300 words)
- How has your innovation benefitted people? (Max.300 words)
- What has been the impact and who has it helped? Max.(300 words)
- What's next? (Max.200 words)

Inclusive Innovation: Tech for Good

Organisation category

The group, team, service, product, or organisation that is breaking new ground with a bold innovation that drives equality, inclusion, diversity and empowers others to contribute to and benefit from game changing ideas that create lasting social impact

Nominee questions:

- Describe your innovation (Max.300 words)
- What is/was behind the motivation to develop this innovation? (Max.300 words)
- What has been the impact and who has it helped? (Max.300 words)
- What's next? (Max.200 words)

CATEGORY BREAKDOWN

Mentor of the Year

Open to all genders

The individual who shares their knowledge, expertise and experience to help their mentees develop skills, make decisions and achieve their goals. Awarded to the individual who has positively influenced the success of others outside of their day job.

Nominee questions:

- Why do you mentor? (Max.300 words)
- What's your proudest achievement over the last year? (Max.300 words)
- What lasting impact do you hope to have on those you mentor? (Max.300 words)

Outstanding Entrepreneur

Organisation must have been incorporated for at least 12 months.

Open to all genders

The entrepreneur, who is driven with a passion and purpose to grow and develop their organisation(s) to achieve success whilst making a positive impact.

Nominee questions:

- The name of your organisation(s)
- Your position in the company
- What was your turnover during the last 12 months?
 - Up to £100k
 - £101k - £500k
 - £501k - £1m
 - Over £1m
- What are your key takeaways from the last year? (Max.300 words)
- What part does gender equality and inclusivity play both in your personal life as well as in your organisation(s) and your plans to grow? (Max.300 words)
- What are your plans for the next 12 months as an entrepreneur? (Max.300 words)

One to Watch

Open to all genders

The individual that stands out from the crowd, going above and beyond the expectations of their day job by creating impact with a commitment to championing equity, equality and inclusivity.

Nominee questions:

- Describe your proudest achievements over the past 12 months and the impact they have had? (Max.200 words)
- What's your motivation? (Max.200 words)
- What makes you stand out from the crowd and why are you one to watch (if this nomination is associated with your day job please explain this in more detail)? (Max.200 words)
- What are you focused on making happen in the next twelve months? (Max.200 words)

CATEGORY BREAKDOWN

Person with Purpose: Charity/CIC/Cause

Open to all genders

The individual from a Charity/CIC/Cause who is driven by a genuine desire and purpose to create real change across and from the North and beyond to better the lives of both individuals and communities.

Nominee questions:

- Describe your proudest achievement(s) over the past 12 months and the impact these have had. (Max.250 words)
- What is your purpose and why? (Max.250 words)
- What made you want to make a difference? (Max.250 words)
- What are you focused on making happen in the next 12 months? (Max.250 words)

Person with Purpose: Public Sector

(eg NHS, Emergency Services, Academia, Military, Government)

Open to all genders

The individual from the Public Sector who is driven by a genuine desire and purpose to create real change across and from the North and beyond to better the lives of both individuals and communities.

Nominee questions:

- Describe your proudest achievement(s) over the past 12 months and the impact these have had. (Max.250 words)
- What is your purpose and why? (Max.250 words)
- What made you want to make a difference? (Max.250 words)
- What are you focused on making happen in the next 12 months? (Max.250 words)

Person with Purpose: Private Sector

Open to all genders

The individual from the Private Sector who is driven by a genuine desire and purpose to create real change across and from the North and beyond to better the lives of both individuals and communities.

Nominee questions:

- Describe your proudest achievement(s) over the past 12 months and the impact these have had. (Max.250 words)
- What is your purpose and why? (Max.250 words)
- What made you want to make a difference? (Max.250 words)
- What are you focused on making happen in the next 12 months? (Max.250 words)

CATEGORY BREAKDOWN

Micro Organisation

1-10 employees

Small/Medium Organisation

11-250 employees

Large Organisation

251+ employees

The organisation that is driven with purpose to grow, develop and succeed. The award recognises organisations that are creating an inclusive workplace whilst making a positive impact.

Nominee questions:

- A brief description of what your organisation does (Max.100 words)
- Your organisation's status (CIC/Charity/sole trader/Ltd company/ Other)
- The year the organisation was founded
- The number of people in the organisation
- Your organisation's mission (Max.100 words)
- What are your key takeaways from the last year? (Max.200 words)
- What does your organisation do to be a responsible member of your community and what is the social impact? (Max.300 words)
- What has your organisation done to accelerate gender equality and create an inclusive culture? (Max.300 words)
- What are you focused on making happen in the next twelve months? (Max.200 words)

GAME CHANGER DESCRIPTIONS

NPW AWARDS GAME CHANGER LISTS

PoWEr List

Open to people who identify as female.

Recognising the trailblazers who use their senior position, power and purpose to promote the importance of gender equality, equity and inclusivity in every part of their work, leaving an undeniable mark on society.

Future List

Open to people who identify as female.

Recognising the influencers and change makers of the future who are already making a difference in their environments and communities.

Advocacy List

Open to people who identify as male.

Recognising male allies who are leaders and influencers committed to advancing gender equality, equity and inclusivity. These individuals actively advocate for gender equality and use their power to create a more equal society.

#NPWAwards
#WEAREPoWEr

GAME CHANGER LISTS BREAKDOWN

PoWEr List

Open to individuals who identify as female

Recognising the trailblazers who use their senior position, power and purpose to promote the importance of gender equality, equity and inclusivity in every part of their work, leaving an undeniable mark on society.

Nominee questions:

- What achievement(s) are you most proud of? (Max. 400 words)
- How do you use your power as a force for good in accelerating gender equality, equity and inclusivity in the North? (Max. 400 words)

Future List

Open to individuals who identify as female

Recognising the influencers and change makers of the future who are already making a difference in their environments and communities.

Nominee questions:

- What has been your greatest achievement in the last 12 months and what are you most proud of? (Max.200 words)
- In what ways have you contributed to accelerating gender equality, equity, and inclusion? (Max.200 words)
- Why do you want to make a difference? (Max.200 words)
- What would being included on the Future List enable you to do? (Max.200 words)

Advocacy List

Open to individuals who identify as male

Recognising male allies who are leaders and influencers committed to advancing gender equality, equity and inclusivity. These individuals actively advocate for gender equality and use their power to create a more equal society.

Nominee questions:

- What has been your greatest achievement in the last 12 months and what are you most proud of? (Max.300 words)
- Why do you want to make a difference? (Max.200 words)
- How do you use your power and influence to advocate for gender equality, equity and wider inclusivity? (Max.300 words)