

Heads of the Valleys Innovation Awards Information



The inaugural Heads of the Valleys Innovation Awards 2007 honour and acknowledge the most innovative businesses in the Heads of the Valleys area. The Awards are an opportunity to gain recognition for any business activity that has been implemented and had a dramatic and beneficial impact on any aspect of the business, its products or services or on its customers, associates or staff. There are a number of sponsored categories covering a wide range of business activity in the area. Remember, innovation is not just about landing people on the moon – it can be related to something small scale that has a very powerful or highly significant outcome.

Let's recognise and celebrate success!

How do I enter?

You can enter the awards by nominating yourself, your company or another company and completing the Awards entry form. There are 4 Awards categories – decide which category best suits your business. All entrants must be based in the Heads of the Valleys area. Completed entries should be returned to Phil Burkhard, HOVIP Programme Manager by 12 noon on Wednesday 6 JUNE 2007. Please take note of the closing date as we have a strict policy and will not accept late entries. The Awards entry form can be downloaded from the Innovation Awards section at www.merthyr.ac.uk/hovip.

What are the Awards categories and prizes?

There are 4 distinct categories in the 2007 Innovation Awards. Select the category that best suits your business.

- **Most Innovative Sole Trader**
Sponsored by HSBC Bank plc
Prize: £500 cash prize plus a package of preferential services for the winning company
- **Most Innovative Business with less than 20 employees**
Sponsored by KTS Owens Thomas
Prize: £500 cash prize plus a package of preferential services for the winning company
- **Most Innovative Business with more than 20 employees**
Sponsored by BT
Prize: £500 cash prize
- **Most Innovative Community Enterprise Business**
Sponsored by NESTA, the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts
Prize: £1000 cash prize plus related marketing support from NESTA for the winning organisation.

Winners will each receive a trophy to celebrate their success and will also be promoted through the HOVIP programme with the winning entries publicised on www.merthyr.ac.uk/hovip

Thank-you to all of our Sponsors



Heads of the Valleys Innovation Programme (HOVIP) aims to increase the capacity for innovation in SMEs in the area. HOVIP is ESF funded and facilitated by UGCS Ltd. Merthyr Tydfil College, University of Glamorgan.



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When are the Awards announced and presented?

The closing date for entries is 12 noon on Wednesday 6 June 2007. Winners in all categories will be announced at a presentation event at the Heads of the Valleys Innovation Marketplace on Thursday 28 June 2007 at the Parkway Hotel in Cwmbran.

Who will judge the Awards?

The judges will include:

Richie Turner, Wales Manager for National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts,
Ceri Fitzpatrick BT Partnership Director for Wales,
Craig Blackmore, Sales & Marketing Director, KTS Owens Thomas,
and Dr. Arthur Davies, Non-Exec Chairman of Shetland Whisky and Co-Founder of Welsh Whisky.

What do I do next?

- To enter, please complete the Awards entry form which can be downloaded from the Innovation Awards section of www.merthyr.ac.uk/hovip Email your completed entry to Phil Burkhard at hovip@merthyr.ac.uk
- Entries will be judged on this written submission. The assessment criteria will particularly focus on the degree of innovation, benefits and sustainability.
- The judges will review the entries week commencing 18 June 2007 and the winners in each category will be announced at the Innovation Marketplace at the Parkway Hotel in Cwmbran on Thursday 28 June 2007.

General Conditions for Entry

- The closing date for entries is 12 noon on Wednesday 6 June 2007.
- Only one entry per business.
- All entries must be on the official Awards entry form (available at www.merthyr.ac.uk/hovip under Innovation Awards)
- All entrants must be based in the Heads of the Valleys area.
- The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- HOVIP accept no responsibility for the loss, late delivery or damage to material submitted.

<p>Download the Awards entry form from the Innovation Awards section of www.merthyr.ac.uk/hovip</p>
<p>Please email your completed entry to Phil Burkhard, HOVIP Programme Manager, at hovip@merthyr.ac.uk to arrive NO LATER THAN 12 noon on 6 JUNE 2007.</p>
<p>Any queries, please contact Wendy Locke on 01685 726061</p>
<p>Thank you and Good Luck!</p>



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