



Small Business of the Year

Stage 2 Judging Date: **Wednesday 16th September 2026, 09:00-18:00 at Eco-Power Stadium**

Eligibility

- This award is open to businesses with 10-49 employees.
- Only businesses in DN postcode OR Doncaster Chamber members can apply.

Criteria

- Financials must be completed for your entry to be put forward for stage 1 judging. Should there be any discrepancies in your financials please ensure to explain in your answer.
- Entries must have a Doncaster focus specifically referencing impact your business has had on the area or community.
- Eligible organisations should be reflecting on the past 12 months activity prior to entry
- All completed entry forms must be submitted by Sunday 7th June 2026
- Stage 2 judging will take place on Wednesday 16th September 2026 at Eco-Power Stadium between 09:00-18:00. Please ensure to block this out in your diary should you progress to this stage. This cannot be moved.
- Maximum of 3 categories per company can be entered.
- Word count must be adhered to avoid disqualification

Questions & Guidance

You will be scored against these questions (Max 400 words per question).

1. Explain the vision and performance of the business/organisation, including financial performance
2. Describe how your business consistently delivers outstanding customer service and high-quality products or services. What differentiates you from competitors, and how do you go above and beyond to exceed customer expectations? Provide clear examples and evidence
3. Outline your business strategy and how it has enabled you to innovate, adapt, or lead within your market. Include any pioneering approaches, new products/services, or operational improvements including AI adoption that have strengthened your competitive position.
4. Explain how you have built, developed, and supported your workforce. This should include how you attract and retain talent, invest in training and development, and foster a positive, inclusive, and high-performing culture. Provide examples of initiatives and the impact they have had on your team and overall business success.
5. Explain the key challenges your business has faced and how you have responded to them. How have your decisions, leadership, or operational improvements strengthened the resilience and long-term stability of the business?
6. Detail the contribution your business has made to Doncaster's economy and communities. This may include job creation, investment, partnerships with other organisations, or social value initiatives. Provide examples of the impact you have delivered and/or ESG credentials

Apply here

This will open a Google Form.

Please do not rely on the form to auto-save your submission. We suggest writing your submission externally and pasting into the form.

If you have any questions, please email: awards@doncaster-chamber.co.uk

Non-member fee: £100 +VAT