

South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards 2022



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Special Sheffield Star supplement



All the winners celebrate on stage at the South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards

A celebration of sustained brilliance



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The inaugural South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards honoured the innovation and hard work of the businesses, organisations and individuals that are leading the way in the drive to net zero.

Winners in 12 categories were hailed at a gala black-tie event at Magna in Rotherham.

Nancy Fielder, editor-in-chief of National World Cities, which includes The Star, said it was an 'inspirational evening' and she was delighted to celebrate so many people and companies working



Nancy Fielder,
editor-in-chief of
National World Cities

so hard to make a difference. She added: "These awards show South Yorkshire is world leading in innovation, determination and hard work. If only every region in the world could celebrate the difference people like you are making we would have a very sustainable future."

Host, television presenter Philippa Forrester, thanked judges Kate Martin, Hellen Stirling-Baker and Curtis Yip for their diligence before announcing the winners.



Host Philippa Forrester

SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

All Seasons Group wins big and AES Engineering Ltd triumphs

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Sheffield businesses of all sizes are doing their bit for sustainability – and that was reflected in the awards for SME of the year and large business of the year.

Awards host Phillipa Forrester said of the SME of the year award at South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards: “This award shines a light on the small organisations that have implemented a sustainable strategy to reduce carbon emissions.”

All Seasons Group emerged as the SME of the year in the sustainability awards – ahead of a strong field of Sheffield businesses. Councillor Martin Smith,



AES Engineering Ltd received the large business award

chairman of Sheffield Council’s Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee, announced the winner on stage at Magna.

The company, based at Halfway, is a supplier and installer of renewable power,

carbon reducing and energy saving technologies, helping both homes and businesses.

The awards heard how the renewable energy that All Seasons Group uses comes from their solar panels, battery storage and two



All Seasons Group receive the SME of the year awards

air source heat pumps. They have also launched a Plant a Tree campaign – for every successful solar and heat pump project they complete, they plant a tree through the National Trust.

The other finalists in the

SME category in the awards were AAD Architects, Cafology, Iceotope and Moore Insight.

Winner of the award for the large business category was AES Engineering Ltd, the engineering components

manufacturer. Ms Forrester said: “This award recognises larger organisations that have put their sustainability practices at the heart of their business goals and are well on their way to delivering this strategy and reaping the rewards from this approach.”

The awards heard how AES Engineering Ltd identifies that net zero is a continuous project, and have embedded the net zero strategy and sustainability strategy into their day to day operations.

Amanda Johnston, the innovation manager at the National Centre of Excellence for Food Engineering, also presented a ‘highly commended’ certificate to Synetiq Ltd, which keeps vehicles and green used parts in use for their intended purpose.

Business Sheffield is proud to support the **South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards** recognising **eco-conscious businesses** across the city.

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SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Wins for Lavang/Private Diners Club and South Yorkshire Police

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The important green work taking place in retail and hospitality, and by public organisations, was outlined in the South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards.

Awards host Phillippa Forrester said of the Best Hospitality or Retail Sustainability Initiative award, at the presentation night at Magna: "This award recognises businesses in the hospitality or retail sectors that can demonstrate a mindful approach they have taken to improve the environmental impact of their business."

Lavang/The Private Diners Club took the top prize in the category, beating a strong

field to the honour, with the award presented on stage by Marcus Schofield, media sales director (Yorkshire) at National World.

The awards heard how the business, based at Nether Green in Sheffield, is a fine dining Indian food and drink establishment based on the outskirts of the city. The business has innovated and adapted pre/post Covid and moved many operations to digital formats. They have also prioritised environmental, social and economic impacts of the business within the local and wider community.

The three other finalists were Marmadukes, who operate three family-run cafes in Sheffield, Rotherham based Mattress Online, who introduced a mattress recycling service, and Rother-



Lavang / Private Diners Club won the Best Hospitality or Retail Sustainability Initiative award

ham-based Preloved Kilo Ltd, an independent sustainable fashion retailer.

South Yorkshire Police were the winners of the public sector award, revealed on

stage by Hellen Stirling-Baker and Curtis Yip. Former television pre-

sender and awards host Ms Forrester said of the public sector award: "The public sector faces the same challenges as many businesses in the move towards net zero, but is arguably under more pressure to implement change and showcase the successes that can be achieved."

"Our winner is committed to embedding sustainability throughout the organisation and has delivered an effective engagement plan enabling all areas of their organisation to contribute and report on progress."

The awards heard the force's strategy, launched in 2020, was aligned to their sustainable development goals and underpinned by their ultimate ambition: to embed sustainability in all that they do.



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SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Dozen companies receive top honours

Brilliant winners celebrate on stage



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Twelve worthy winners received awards at the inaugural South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards. We present them all here, along with two 'highly commended' companies. Congratulations!

Steve Foxley, CEO at sponsor the AMRC, with Manufacturing Award winners ITM Power, and Philippa Forrester



Marcus Schofield, media sales director (Yorkshire) at National World, with Best Hospitality or Retail Sustainability Initiative winner Lavang / The Private Diners Club and Philippa Forrester



Rachel James, assistant principal for teaching and learning at sponsors Barnsley College with Business Leader of the Year Tom Rumboll of SYNETIQ Ltd and Philippa Forrester



Judges Curtis Yip and Hellen Stirling-Ba South Yorkshire Police



Alix Johnstone-Morfoisse, business development manager at sponsor the Translational Energy Research Centre, with Net Zero Business of the Year, AES Engineering Ltd, and Philippa Forrester



Deputy Mayor of Barnsley Coun Mick Stowe, with Green Ambassador of the Year, David Montero, and Philippa Forrester



Brendon Wittram, managing director of the Year winners Baby Basics UK

SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS



Amanda Johnston, left, innovation manager at sponsor The National Centre of Excellence for Food Engineering (NCEFE), with 'highly commended' Large Business of the Year SYNETIQ Ltd (Tom Rumboll) and Philippa Forrester



Steve Foxley, CEO at sponsor the AMRC, with Manufacturing Award 'highly commended' Instantprint and Philippa Forrester



Coun Martin Smith, chair of economic development and skills policy committee at Sheffield City Council, left, with SME winners All Seasons Group and Philippa Forrester



Melinda Schofield, regional sales director - Yorkshire at sponsor Bauer Media, Hallam FM, with winner of the Education Initiative of the Year winner Schools Climate Education South Yorkshire and Philippa Forrester



Present the Public Sector Organisation of the Year award to



Amanda Johnston, left, innovation manager at sponsor The National Centre of Excellence for Food Engineering (NCEFE), with Large Business of the Year winners AES Engineering and Philippa Forrester

David Naisbit, Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire, with Lifetime Achievement Award winner Stephen Shaw



Present the River Stewardship Company, with Community Initiative



Lee Firth, academy manager at sponsor ITM Power, with Young Green Champion Safaa Shreef and Philippa Forrester



SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Climate emergency project and ITM's energy tech are winners

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A mission to educate and engage students about the climate emergencies facing our planet was a big winner at the South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards.

An eco-friendly tech firm which works to produce green hydrogen from water and renewable electricity was also recognised on the night.

The Education Initiative of the Year Award, sponsored by Hallam FM, recognised educators who raise awareness and understanding of sustainability.

Schools' Climate Education South Yorkshire, which aims to promote and educate students about climate emer-



Education Award winner Schools Climate Education South Yorkshire

gencies, took the honour.

It encourages schools to include climate education in all areas of the curriculum. It supports students, teachers and schools on their journey, helping them to reduce carbon emissions in their school

communities and improve their local environment.

AESSEAL plc's apprenticeship scheme to help the younger generation find work in a difficult jobs market was also recognised.

The Manufacturing



Manufacturing Award winner ITM Power

Award, sponsored by the University of Sheffield Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC), recognised businesses which have implemented a successful sustainability strategy in the drive to become net-zero.

ITM Power, a research driven technology company that designs and manufactures electrolysis equipment to produce green hydrogen from water and renewable electricity, took home this award.

It aims for a world free of fossil fuels where each and every one of us can enjoy the benefits of a net zero society such as energy security and clean air.

Instantprint, which is based in Rotherham and has empowered more than 770,000 UK businesses since its formation in 2009, was highly commended in this category.

It is dedicated to offering a fast service and sustainably sourced printed materials, and has recently achieved Carbon Neutral certification as part of its broader sustainability strategy.

The other finalists were: BIDBI - Bag it Don't Bin It, a textile printer and Iceotope Technologies, the global leader in precision immersion cooling technology.

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SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Charity helping hard up families and business leader given gongs

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A charity which provides vulnerable children and their families with essentials they would otherwise struggle to afford was honoured at the awards.

There was also well-deserved recognition for a business leader whose passion to create a truly sustainable future for the salvage industry is already reaping dividends.

The Community Initiative of the Year Award, sponsored by The River Stewardship Company, recognised charities, CICs, volunteer or community groups within that are doing great things to support their community moving towards net zero.



Baby Basics UK won the Community Initiative of the Year Award

The Sheffield-based charity Baby Basics UK was the winner. It provides vulnerable children and their families with all the essentials they need for life with children from pre-birth to five-years-old.

It is passionate about re-using and recycling, and encouraging the public to help support vulnerable families while also preventing items ending up in landfill. Its eco-friendly initiatives include creating a handbook with tips



Tom Rumboll, of SYNETIQ Ltd, won the Business Leader of the Year Award

and tricks about how to reduce waste and recycle more. The other finalists were Betterworld.Solutions, which aims to encourage companies to adopt, publish and operate an investment policy to prevent global warming, and La-

bre's Hope, which is the first organisation in the UK supporting homeless people into employment through eco-friendly cosmetic making. The Business Leader of the Year Award, sponsored by Barnsley College, hon-

ours business leaders who recognise the strategy requirements for businesses to achieve/or move towards net zero.

Tom Rumboll, of SYNETIQ Ltd, was the winner. He is passionate and committed to decarbonising the automotive supply chain, and has made remarkable inroads into providing a truly sustainable future for the salvage industry.

He leads the business that has set the standard for the vehicle recycling industry as a whole. In 2021 alone, SYNETIQ helped clients avoid 3.3 million kgs of CO2 through the supply of green parts.

Chris Rea, of AES Engineering Ltd, was the other finalist. He was recognised for his commitment to running a sustainable and ethical business.

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SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Young and experienced green ambassadors take the awards



Lee Firth, academy manager at sponsor ITM Power, with Young Green Champion Safaa Shreef and Philippa Forrester



Deputy Mayor of Barnsley Coun Mick Stowe, with Green Ambassador of the Year, David Montero, and Philippa Forrester

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A young woman who has been a beacon of youth empowerment and climate action is the Young Green Champion at the South Yorkshire Sustainability Awards.

The category was for individuals between 12-18 years old who have shown outstanding leadership in driving change and/or campaigning for an environmental issue.

Safaa Shreef is a member of Barnsley Youth Council and the British Youth Council Steering Group. She has spoken at and was a leading organiser of a youth event at COP 26

She chairs the Yorkshire and Humber Youth Steering Group where she empowers other MYPs. And she spearheads climate action in Barnsley and leads their tree planting project.

Safaa's work has led her to speak about a host of big issues – including women's rights and

environmentalism, fast fashion, pollution, transport and more – with key decision makers in South Yorkshire and beyond.

She received her award from Lee Firth, academy manager at sponsor ITM Power.

Meanwhile, Green Ambassador of the Year went to David Montero for his outstanding efforts to implement change to reduce environmental impacts and motivate others to adopt environmentally-friendly lifestyles.

Mr Montero, business assurance manager at AES Engineering in Rotherham, has responsibility for the sustainability and net zero targets for the global organisation and he oversees the quality, health and safety, anti-bribery and corruption, and environmental and sustainability management systems.

Alongside this, he also leads the project for the future development of 'Factory of the Future', managing contractors and directing this

project from the start. This is a huge undertaking in itself.

The winner was announced by deputy mayor of Barnsley Coun Mick Stowe.

The other finalist in the Young Green Champion category was Curtis Yip, who, as one of the judges, was not involved in deciding it.

Curtis is a member of Rotherham Youth Cabinet and has campaigned strongly against the climate emergency and volunteers tirelessly for a sustainable

environment. He also attended COP 26, delivering a workshop as part of a team around an international project called the Ripple Effect.

He is also a member of the South Yorkshire and National Mayoral Combined Youth Authority and Public Transport Youth Group. It has worked with the elected metro mayor around issues including green jobs, public transport and carbon emissions/sustainable travel.

AES scoops Net Zero and Lifetime Achievement honours

Very few firms can demonstrate they already achieve net zero output - AES Engineering is one.

The Rotherham firm reached net zero at its 230 locations, covering all scope one, two and three greenhouse gas emissions, in 2021.

It has also, through its Betterworld.Solutions programme, gone a long way to inspire other businesses to start their own journey.

The company was hailed Net Zero Business of the Year at the awards. The category was sponsored by Translational Energy Research Centre (TERC).

AES Engineering also employs the person who won the Lifetime Achievement Award.

It was for an individual who has made a long standing commitment to change and through years of dedication, achieved success across South Yorkshire and beyond.

Group engineering director Stephen Shaw holds responsibility for numerous global businesses. A true professional with outstanding levels of knowledge.

He has been the voice behind promoting women in engineering. AES recognises women make up just nine per cent of the UK's engineering

workforce, an imbalance that the university's Women in Engineering project was established to address.

Mr Shaw said: "Working in industry we see the need to improve the gender balance across all engineering disciplines, which has been demonstrated by the university. We know the ability is there among the next generation of students. We are proud to be doing our part to level the playing field, and open up our sector to women from whose talent we can only benefit."

Mr Shaw received his award from David Naisbitt, Deputy Lord-Lieutenant of

South Yorkshire.

The other finalists in the Net Zero Business category included Hybrid Air Vehicles, which is leading aviation's net-zero transition by designing and manufacturing efficient, airship-style craft.

Hydrogen specialist ITM Power uses 100 per cent renewable energy for all of its projects.

EV conversion specialist Magtec recycles energy back to the grid and has a growing fleet of electric cars. Wayv. Talk and Broadband for Business is the first carbon neutral telecoms and broadband company within the UK.



David Naisbitt with award winner Stephen Shaw and Philippa Forrester