

# APPENDIX A

## SOUTHWARK CIVIC AWARDS 2024

### RATIONALE, CATEGORIES, CRITERIA, ELIGIBILITY

Since 1997 the Southwark Civic Awards scheme has honoured hundreds of individuals and organisations across the borough. Apart from the rarely conferred Honorary Freedom of Southwark, the awards are the most prestigious the council can make and in 2016 they became even more exceptional still with the conferring of a small number of awards in these categories:

**The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey (Category 1)**

**The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell (Category 2)**

**The Liberty of the Old Metropolitan Borough of Southwark (Category 3)**

**The Young Citizen of the Year Award (Category 4)**

**The Southwark Together Award (Category 5)**

**The Climate Champion Award (Category 6)**

**The Mayor's Discretionary Award (Category 7)**

#### **What are we looking for?**

With this awards scheme the key words are 'active citizenship' and 'exceptional achievement'. We are in search of people, projects, organisations and businesses worthy of being singled out and publicly recognised for their generous use of time, ideas, energy and resources for the betterment of others.

We are also looking for shining examples of civic mindedness, personal courage, or service to family or community that is above and beyond the ordinary. We want the recipients of these awards to know that the difference they have made to the lives of others, or indeed the life of the borough, is recognised at the highest level. Examples may include, but are not restricted to:

- Outstanding personal service to the young or the elderly.
- A community organisation or person that has improved the lives of many.
- A project or event that has helped to build bridges between cultures and communities.
- An act of personal courage or generosity.
- Innovation in business or the improvement of the local economy.
- Enhancement of the borough's culture, heritage and reputation.

## **The Liberty Awards**

The Southwark Civic Awards celebrate our roots as 'London's most historic borough' by conferring the liberties of the three metropolitan boroughs from which The London Borough of Southwark was formed in 1965 – Bermondsey, Camberwell, and Southwark. We also want to recognise exceptional contributions to civic, community or family life by individuals, businesses, projects or organisations in the geographical areas they once covered. Those nominated for one of these awards may have given a lifetime or many years of service, or made an exceptional contribution to civic and community life in the previous year (2021).

**The Old Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey** incorporates: London Bridge and West Bermondsey, North Bermondsey, Rotherhithe, South Bermondsey and Surrey Docks wards.

**The Old Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell** incorporates: Camberwell Green, Champion Hill, Dulwich Hill, Dulwich Village, Dulwich Wood, Goose Green, Nunhead & Queen's Road, Old Kent Road, Peckham, Peckham Rye, Rye Lane and St Giles wards.

**The Old Metropolitan Borough of Southwark** incorporates: Borough and Bankside, Chaucer, Faraday, Newington, North Walworth, and St George's wards.

## **The Young Citizen of the Year Award**

This award will recognise the exceptional community spirit, generosity or civic mindedness of a youth or young adult under the age of 25 in any part of the borough. As with the 'liberties', you may nominate a young citizen who has contributed several years of service to community or family life, or has made an outstanding contribution in the previous year alone (2021). The recipient of this award must be a Southwark resident.

## **The Southwark Together Award**

This new Civic Award has been introduced to celebrate those who work over and above the call of duty to promote equality, diversity and inclusion, enable good community relations, tolerance and understanding. This award will recognise an individual, community group or organisation that has made an outstanding contribution to enabling Southwark to be a more integrated, tolerant, welcoming, safe and inclusive borough, which values its rich diversity. Building on the work of Southwark Stands Together, the award celebrates great practice to promote equality, inclusion and good community relations.

Nominations can be made for individuals' voluntary activity or community group, organisation or business which is based in and/or benefits the Southwark community.

## **The Southwark Climate Champion Award**

The Climate Champion Award recognises the commitment and contribution to tackling climate change and reducing carbon emissions in the borough. We already see fantastic work going on throughout the borough from individuals to organisations and businesses. This award is a way to recognise outstanding work in this area and those who are champions in the fight against climate change.

We are looking for nominees who are having an impact in the borough and working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We particularly welcome applications from nominees who are taking action, which also promotes social justice.

## **The Mayor's Discretionary Award**

This discretionary award will allow Southwark's current First Citizen, Councillor Michael Situ, to exercise his personal judgement as to which individual, business, project or organisation in any part of the borough has made the most outstanding contribution to community life.

This person, business, project or organisation may be one of those already honoured with a Liberty or Young Citizen of the Year Award, or it may be another worthy of being singled out for a lifetime or a year of outstanding achievement.

### **Eligibility and exclusions**

The council welcomes nominations for any individual whose unpaid voluntary activity is unrelated to, or is additional to, the nominee's current employment. We also welcome nominations for any community group, organisation or business which is based in and/or benefits the Southwark community.

Serving elected members of Southwark Council may not be nominated but they may freely nominate others. Employees of Southwark Council are also excluded from being nominated, unless it is for unpaid voluntary activity which is unrelated to or is additional to their current employment. Council employees may also nominate individuals, projects or organisations.

As the Southwark Civic Awards scheme for 2024 does not supersede any earlier scheme, previous recipients of equal or greater awards in the scheme may not be nominated. Those who received a Letter of Commendation in the past may, however, be nominated.

Recipients of awards in other council-operated or supported award schemes such as Housing Heroes or Southwark Stars may be nominated for the Southwark Civic Awards.