

Enterprising Britain 2009

The search is on to find the UK's most enterprising place

www.enterprisingbritain.org



Enterprising Britain

Enterprising Britain is a nationwide competition to find the most enterprising place in the UK – a location where enterprise is creating jobs and transforming communities – both of which are vital during these uncertain economic times.

Enterprising Britain is now in its fifth year and is a key part of the Government's drive to create the right conditions for British enterprise. Make Your Mark runs the competition, on behalf of the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR), working in close partnership with the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) and the Devolved Administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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The competition is also used to identify the UK entries to the European Enterprise Awards.

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/entrepreneurship/smes/awards/index_en.htm



Are you a winner?



Enterprising Britain is free to enter and is open to all places (in the UK) such as a town, a city, a parish or neighbourhood that can demonstrate the impact enterprise has had on their community in the last two years.

Last year's finalists included a town united in its efforts to eliminate seasonal unemployment, a centre using carnival arts to transform lives



and a charity tackling deprivation in a socially divided community. All the finalists demonstrated innovation in job creation, new business incubation and encouraging sustainable growth.

To enter, you must be able to demonstrate how enterprising you are and the importance of enterprise to the economic and social transformation of the area. Entrants will have ideas that



can drive social change, build businesses and benefit the economy.

The competition is not open to individual businesses or entrepreneurs but entries from private sector-led partnerships are welcome.

Details of previous finalists can be found at www.enterprisingbritain.org

Recognition

Enterprising Britain 2009 is your chance to recognise and celebrate local transformation made possible through enterprise. Finalists are rewarded on a regional, national and international scale.

The benefits for entrants are wide-ranging. Involvement in Enterprising Britain will enable you to share your achievements with others and learn about successes in other places. The competition helps highlight and spread best practice in enterprise across the UK, which is key to the UK's future economic growth and success in today's unsettled global market.

The national winner will receive:

- A raised profile and recognition from government, business and policy makers

- National and regional media coverage – the 2008 competition was covered more than 500 times, with the national winner featuring in at least 150 items of coverage including The Times, Mail on Sunday, Financial Times and BBC Radio York
- Press and PR support in promoting their win and their work
- A winner's trophy, to be presented at the awards ceremony, and a commemorative prize
- Automatic nomination as the UK representative to the prestigious European Enterprise Awards
- Use of the Enterprising Britain 2009 national winner logo
- Membership of the Enterprising Places Network

- A place on the Enterprising Britain 2010 judging panel

Each of the 12 finalists will receive a visit from a high profile Enterprising Britain judge. Last year's judges included Peter Jones, entrepreneur and BBC TV Dragons' Den star and James Capper of North Staffordshire Regeneration Zone, Enterprising Britain 2007 winner.

"Enterprising Britain is a great opportunity to celebrate some of the enterprise success stories around the UK. It raises awareness of those people who really have made a difference to their communities, and helped to create a more dynamic enterprise culture for everyone."

Peter Jones, Enterprising Britain Judge 2008



Adrian Riley, Electric Angel Design, Scarborough

Scarborough Renaissance Partnership

The Scarborough Renaissance Partnership won Enterprising Britain 2008 for its Waking Sleeping Beauty project which transformed the declining seaside town, stamping out seasonal unemployment, creating new industry sectors and attracting more than £200m of private sector investment along with hundreds of new jobs.

They worked to reduce economic dependence on the declining tourism and fishing industries, capitalised on the physical regeneration of the harbourside,

created facilities such as Woodend Creative Workspace leading to a boom in business start-ups and introduced Freebay Wifi along the coast, making the internet accessible to all.

John Burroughs of Scarborough Council explains what winning has meant for the town:

"Winning Enterprising Britain has put us on the map and raised our profile. People now realise that Scarborough is more than

just a seaside resort; it's a hub of culture and business – a contemporary, vibrant, thriving town. Our win has generated increased interest from external developers and investors and the whole Enterprising Britain experience has engaged everyone in the town in enterprise – encouraging people to get involved and make their ideas happen, whether it is in school, at home or at work. We hope it will ensure that our next wave of entrepreneurs are supported and can take up the challenge to become more enterprising."

How to get involved

Enterprising Britain 2009 opens to entrants on the 25 February 2009. The deadline for submitting applications to your local RDA or Devolved Administration is 30 April 2009. The national winner will be announced in October.

Entering the competition is free and easy to do. To register interest simply return this form to the address in the box on the right, or email your details to HelenCook@seeda.co.uk

Entry forms are also available from your local RDA or Devolved Administration.

The Enterprising Britain team looks forward to receiving your application and finding the most enterprising place in the UK.

Helen Cook
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Name:	
Job title:	
Organisation:	
Tell us briefly what makes you a contender for the Enterprising Britain title?	
Telephone number:	
Email address:	
Is there anything else you think we should know?	