



iiE Awards Criteria 2023

1. Best Carbon Reduction Award

Considerations: Business size and maturity in accreditation.

The winner must demonstrate:

- Absolute carbon reduction relative to other iiE members or averages for their sector (based on carbon calculator figures).
- The winner must show significant progress on halving their carbon emissions since their baseline year, in alignment with national net-zero emissions
- Key carbon reductions need to be shown in Scope 1 & 2 accounting, which will include direct and indirect carbon emissions from energy, transport, and other significant greenhouse gases
- Scope 3, or embedded carbon reductions will further boost scoring in this area, though not all iiE members will be reporting on this

2. Best Water Reduction

Considerations: This may best apply to high water users in manufacturing, construction, or leisure, but anyone who has made significant water reductions can apply.

The winner must demonstrate:

- Best reduction of water against their baseline year with clear evidence of continual improvement each year
- Winners will be able to demonstrate this progress through investment in water-saving technology and behaviour change campaigns to support reducing wasted quality drinking water
- Example technologies could include the use of water-saving toilets, fixtures, rainwater harvesting, or other innovations

3. Best Waste Reduction

Considerations: Business size and type. Professional services will need to show how they have tackled waste in an office environment; healthcare/ manufacturers/ construction companies will need to show how they have reduced waste through circular economy, efficiency, and changes in ways of working (e.g., procuring products that are more readily recycled or with less packaging, reuse, repurposing, etc). Winners will be able to frame how their waste reduction efforts have been made in face of specific challenges, as is made clear in the normal iiE audit process.

The winner must demonstrate:

- Best reduction of waste overall, including waste sent to landfill or energy recovery, OR Most innovative or impactful action on plastics reduction, reuse, recycling
- Use of Circular Economy principles and life cycle consideration of products

4. Sustainable Transport Champion

Considerations: Business size and type; how to measure (travel plan, engagement activities, recording greener travel, incentives, etc)

The winner must demonstrate:

- What actions were taken OR
- What investments or innovations have been made and...
- How this has improved performance and how this was measured

5. Natural Environment Champion

Considerations: This award will recognise a business for how they have contributed to enhancing or protecting the natural environment, including support for biodiversity and conservation

The winner must demonstrate:

- Action or projects taken (examples include trees planted, planting wildflower meadows, etc)
- How they measured their impact (Who did they work with, who took part, how often, etc)

6. Sustainability Influencer

Considerations: Will need to show how they have changed behaviours of other people or organisations to inspire change beyond their direct business activities.

Possible ways to demonstrate:

- List of organisations(s) they worked with
- Projects they undertook (e.g. worked with catering, worked with trade associations, etc)
- Feedback from those with whom they affected change
- Environmental campaigns they have run – communications and marketing
- Impact metrics

7. Overall Outstanding Achiever

Considerations: For this category, there will be two winners based on organisational size (small to medium businesses and large). The organisation will demonstrate their resource efficiency across all measured resources against an appropriate metric. For example, reduced energy use per patient/staff member/product produced, and reduced waste per patient/staff member.

This Award may only be gained by a Green-accredited member, measuring at least six resources.

The winner may demonstrate:

- Normalised reductions achieved on energy, water, and three others
- Money saved
- Investments made
- Process (evidence likely to come from audit process)

8. Best Newcomer

Considerations: For this category, the organisation will demonstrate how they have excelled in their first year as an iiE member. For example, they may have achieved Bronze accreditation and are additionally proud of the levels of staff engagement in their environmental project(s) or having changed an important process to reduce its environmental impact.

This award may be gained by any accredited member within their first two years of membership.

The winner may demonstrate:

- Introduction of new policies that are already having an impact (e.g., switches to renewable energy, supporting staff in virtual offices with reducing their impacts, creating green products lists, etc).
- Introduction of incentives/training/communication to increase staff engagement and environmental awareness
- Investments made and savings achieved (if more than one year's measurements have been gathered).

9. Best Social Impact

Considerations: For this category, the organisation will demonstrate how they made an impact in their local area through the project section of their iiE accreditation. Impact can have been demonstrated through volunteering, financial support or contribution to human wellbeing.

The winner may demonstrate:

- Projects undertaken
- Scale of impact (e.g. one-off projects or long term engagement)
- Scale of engagement amongst staff (e.g. numbers/percentages involved, length of time committed)
- Feedback from beneficiaries
- Details of measured outcomes