

2024 South Downs Design Awards

Terms & Conditions

General conditions

1. All schemes must be located within the South Downs National Park boundary.
2. They should have a 'Completed Certificate' from Building Regulations dated between April 2019 and April 2024 or be demonstrably completed if Building Regulations are not applicable (applicable to all categories except Future Projects).
3. Where planning permission was required (and obtained), there must be no outstanding enforcement matters relating to the development, or the site to which it relates.
4. Nominations must be submitted using a completed entry form.
5. Entries can be submitted by anyone who considers a scheme suitable for an award, including owners, architects, designers, developers, Parish Councils, host Authorities, Amenity Societies, Design Review Panel.
6. The consent of the owner must be obtained prior to completing an entry form.
7. Entries will not be accepted from South Downs National Park Authority Members and Officers or members of their family, or for buildings in their ownership or control.
8. Entries will be assessed by a judging panel consisting of representatives from the Authority and the design professions.
9. If the judging panel considers there to be no nominations of the required standard, no award will be made.
10. The judging panel's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Category specific assessment criteria

Residential, Non-residential and Conservation Categories

1. An innovative and/or outstanding contribution to the South Downs National Park Purposes & Duty.
2. The design quality of a scheme, in terms of its landscape-led approach, the form of development (siting, massing, scale) and its appearance (detailing & materials).
3. The design quality of a building, in terms of the overall vision; architectural expression, integrity; detailing and its overall integration within a designated landscape.
4. The quality of craftsmanship and execution of work.
5. The sustainable credentials of the scheme reducing embodied and operational carbon and adapting to predicted climate change.
6. The overall positive contribution to the local communities of the National Park, directly or indirectly, through design.

Future Projects Category

1. An innovative and/or outstanding potential contribution to the South Downs National Park's Purposes & Duty.
2. The project should have adopted a landscape-led approach to design.
3. The project should design for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
4. The design should aim to have an overall positive contribution to the local communities of the National Park.
5. High quality architectural, landscape and/or urban design and placemaking, creating places for people and nature would be expected.
6. Clear communication and a strong project narrative would be favoured.
7. It is recognised that some entries will excel in design competence, others will be visionary, all are welcome.