

# Nominations Now Open



We invite everyone accessing mental health, learning disability, and autism services across the UK to showcase their incredible achievements at the National Lived Experience Awards 2026.

These awards celebrate true partnership; therefore, every nomination must be co-produced with service users or residents. Projects delivered solely by staff will not be eligible.

## Categories for 2026

### Outstanding Leadership Award

For the trailblazers and quiet influencers. This award recognises groups or individuals who have used their lived experience to drive projects forward, inspire others, and lead the way for change, whether in their service or on a national level.

### Celebrating Diversity Award

Recognising individual's or group projects that are working to not only spread awareness and encourage acceptance, but to strive for all of our differences to be celebrated. These projects may focus on diversity of any kind, including cultural, neuro-diversity, gender identity and more.

### Hope and Positivity Award

This award is for those who consistently lift others up, proving that even the smallest actions can ripple out to create a culture of hope and positivity. They recognise the power of small actions, making a big difference.

### Individual Progress Award

This award celebrates an individual with lived experience who has made remarkable progress on their personal journey. It's about recognising the strength it takes to keep going, the small steps that lead to big change.

### Community and Collaboration Award

This award is for collaborative projects that have bridged the gap between services, families, and communities through exceptional teamwork and outreach.

### Social Care Star Award

This category recognises individuals, groups, or services, within a social care setting, who have shown exceptional commitment to co-production, working in equal partnership with people who have lived experience to shape meaningful involvement.

### Mark Britton Service User Choice Award

Awarded on the day. Guests will have the opportunity to vote for a runner up in each category, leaving six projects for a final vote at the end of the day. The award is named in memory of Mark Britton, to commemorate the life of an individual who was key to the awards in previous years and who sadly passed away in July 2019.

Finalists will be invited to our exclusive awards ceremony taking place Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2026 (location TBC).

- ★ Deadline for nominations is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June
- ★ Judging will take place in early July
- ★ Finalists will be notified by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Scan the QR Code to submit a Nomination today:



Scan the QR Code for our Nomination Top Tips and Frequently Asked Questions:

