

# Last Chance for Edinburgh Businesses to get the Green VIBE

The application period for Scotland's leading environmental award scheme is drawing to a close and businesses in Edinburgh are encouraged to enter their green credentials for a chance to join the country's list of sustainable champions.

All entries for this year's Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) Awards, which recognise and showcase businesses that are taking significant steps to reduce their impact on the environment, must be submitted by 5pm on Monday 13 July 2015.

Open to organisations of all sizes and sectors, the awards aim to encourage efficient use of resources, enhance business competitiveness, improve environmental performance and support wider sustainable development goals.

There are seven award categories open for entry this year with multiple entries accepted. Categories include: Management (Large and SME), Environmental Product or Service, Transport, Co-operation, Hydro-Nation and Circular Economy. In addition to this, the Micro Business Award will be presented to the best entry to any category from a company with less than 10 employees.

Previous award winners have included Rabbie's Small Group Tours, Vegware, Soilutions and Radisson from Edinburgh, Fife Harca Ltd., Peel Tech Ltd., FMC Technologies and Brand-Rex from Fife, Airdrie based Albert Bartlett & Sons Ltd, BAE Systems Naval Ships and GRAHAM Construction from Glasgow, Dundee based IRT Surveys Ltd. and Taypack Potatoes, Stagecoach and Jessie Mac's B&B in Perth, to name a few.

Gillian Bruce, chair of the VIBES Awards, said: “We want to hear from businesses in Edinburgh that are working hard to make Scotland more environmentally aware – this could be down to a new product or service or an improved process that is resulting in environmental and business benefits. We’ve received some great entries so far but there is still time for businesses to enter and showcase their commitment to the environment.

“Sustainable practices are crucial to businesses of every kind and VIBES showcases some of the fantastic work being done by companies across Scotland to reduce their impact on the environment. We’d encourage anyone thinking of applying to get in touch with us if they have any questions or require support.”

Scotland’s businesses will also have the opportunity to attend an application guidance event with VIBES and Fife Green Business. Held on Wednesday 24th June at Fife Renewables Innovation Centre, the breakfast seminar will run from 8am-10:30am and will offer advice and tips on the 2015 VIBES application process as well as providing an opportunity for businesses to ask questions.

Sponsoring the awards this year are Scottish Government, ScottishPower, Zero Waste Scotland, Brand-Rex, Chivas Brothers Pernod Ricard and The University of Stirling Management School. A number of previous VIBES winners have also pledged their support as VIBES Ambassadors and are encouraging other businesses to enter for their chance to win a coveted VIBES Award.

VIBES is a strategic partnership between Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Government, Scottish Water, Scottish Enterprise, Highland and Islands Enterprise, Zero Waste Scotland, Energy Saving Trust and Scotland’s 2020 Climate Group. The Awards are further supported by CBI Scotland, the Institute of Directors, the Federation of Small

Businesses and Bright Green Business.

The Awards are accredited by the RSA Environment Awards Accreditation Scheme ([www.rsaaccreditation.org](http://www.rsaaccreditation.org)).

To reserve a space at the application event on the 24th June please visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/2015-vibes-awards-helping-you-write-a-winning-application-tickets-15556043545>.

For more information on VIBES or to obtain an application from, please visit <http://www.vibes.org.uk>.

Twitter: @VIBES\_Awards

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