

# **Inclusion North Awards 2025 – Nominations Guidance**

## **Welcome**

Thank you for taking the time to nominate someone for the Inclusion North Awards.

This special gala will celebrate the people, organisations, and projects making a real difference in creating a more inclusive world for people with a learning disability, autistic people, and family carers.

These awards are **co-produced** with people with lived experience to ensure they truly reflect what inclusion means.

Before you submit your nomination, please read through each category and its criteria to make sure your nominee is the best fit.

**Please note:** If a person is shortlisted, they must be available to attend the Gala to accept their award if they win.

## **Award Categories & Criteria**

### **1. The Gary Stark Citizenship Award**

Honours the memory of Gary Stark one of our former directors, for a person with a learning disability and/or autism who:

- Speaks up for others, not just themselves
- Believes in fairness and equal rights
- Lives independently and makes their own choices
- Helps their community
- Follows the values Gary believed in:  
Equality, Rights, Social Justice, Inclusion for all, Working together,  
Being strong and brave, Challenging barriers.

### **2. Volunteer of the Year**

For someone who:

- Volunteers regularly and reliably
- Works well with others
- Makes a difference in their community
- May have overcome big challenges

### **3. Advocacy Organisation of the Year**

For a group that:

- Works closely with people with lived experience
- Believes in inclusion and fairness
- Runs strong campaigns or projects
- Makes things accessible
- Delivers real change

### **4. Partner of the Year**

For an organisation that:

- Works closely with Inclusion North
- Shares our values
- Offers time, skills, or resources to support our work
- Collaborates openly and effectively

### **5. Provider of the Year**

For a service that:

- Puts people first
- Involves people in decisions
- Makes people feel safe and included
- Tries new ideas to improve

## **6. Charity of the Year**

For a community or campaign group (not a service) that:

- Works for fairness and change
- Involves people with lived experience
- Is creative and impactful
- Makes a difference locally or nationally

## **7. Rising Star Award**

For a young person or newcomer to advocacy who:

- Has a learning disability or is autistic
- Is passionate and brave
- Is already making a difference
- Has great potential for more

## **8. Going the Extra Mile Award**

For someone who:

- Always gives their best
- Often works behind the scenes
- Shows kindness and care
- Goes above and beyond expectations

## **9. Project Innovation Award**

For a new idea or project that:

- Is different or original
- Was co-produced with people with lived experience
- Solves a problem creatively

- Has results that others can learn from

## **10. Outstanding Achievement Award**

For someone who:

- Could be a self-advocate, professional, or supporter
- Has made a big difference over time
- Stands up for rights and inclusion
- Inspires others

## **How to Nominate**

You can nominate in two ways:

- **Online Form:** Complete our Microsoft Form  
<https://forms.office.com/e/NFUuBNmv37>
- **Voice or Video Nomination:** Send via WhatsApp **07494 740686**

**Nominations in video or voice must be no more than 3 minutes long.**

## **Top Tips for a Great Nomination**

- Read each category carefully and match your nominee to the best one
- Give clear, specific examples of their impact
- Keep your language respectful and empowering
- Make sure you have your nominee's permission if sharing personal details
- Submit before the Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to make sure your nomination is considered

To View Data Protection Policy and Privacy Policy click on the following link: <https://inclusionnorth.org/privacy-policy/>

### **Questions?**

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