**The 5th North West Awards for Coastal Excellence (NW ACE)**

**Coastal Community Action Nominations**

The North West Coastal Forum is pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the 5th biennial NW ACE – an award scheme to recognise outstanding achievement in and contribution to the long-term management of our coast and near-shore marine environments.

**Nominations close on 30th September 2018.**

**Visual accessibility** – if a form with bigger print is required please contact caroline.salthouse@nwcoastalforum.org.uk

**Award Description: Coastal Community Action**

This award will be made to a community group in recognition of their significant contribution to the long term management of the North West coast.

Nominations are open to residents group, school or community volunteer group which has carried out work on the North West coast within the last 2 years.

This category is open only to participants from within the North West.

Groups can be put forward by someone or may nominate themselves.

Please see the Award Criteria and the Terms and Conditions below for guidance on how to complete the application form.

**Award Criteria**

All entries will be expected to show how they meet the essential criteria below. Entries should also show if, and if so how, they meet any of the desirable criteria listed.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

Fit with the aim and one or more outcomes of the North West Coastal Forum:

*North West Coastal Forum Aim: We aim to promote and deliver integrated coastal zone management in the North West to secure the long-term sustainability of the region’s coast by achieving:*

* *Well-integrated planning and management of the coastal zone*
* *The economic potential of the NW coast achieved in ways which safeguard, enhance, restore and sustainably use our natural and cultural assets*
* *A high quality natural and built coastal environment able to adapt to climate and other change*
* *Improved recreational opportunities and visitor experience*
* *Improved well being of coastal communities*
* *Raised appreciation of the coast, its value and its needs*

Major activity within the last 2 full financial years – from April 2016 to present date

A significant contribution to community benefit and the coast arising from the work carried out

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

Effective teamwork and leadership

Encouragement of community, volunteer or school pupil participation

Promotion of awareness and sharing of skills and knowledge within the local community

Awareness of wider coastal issues and how this work fits within the bigger picture

Key elements that made the work particularly successful

Ownership of the coast - how this work has fostered a sense of ownership of the coast by the local community

Innovation – not a duplicate of similar work elsewhere

Education / skills building – how has this work developed the skills and knowledge of those involved

Communication of the work and its benefits to a wider audience than that involved in the work itself – how has this work developed the knowledge of and benefited those not directly involved

Development of effective working partnerships and integration across different disciplines – how the right people / organisations were involved and how this made the work more successful

Long-term benefits and legacy – what happened when the work finished (or what will happen at the end of the project), and how the long-term benefit was ensured

**Entry terms & conditions**

1. The award is open to any residents group, school or community volunteer group which has carried out work on the North West coast within the last 2 years (April 2016 to present). **This category is open only to groups from within the North West**.
2. Work must be current or have been completed in the last two years (April 2016 to present).
3. Groups can be nominated or can nominate themselves
4. Entries must address each of the selection criteria outlined on the entry form
5. Entries, which must be made electronically, will only be accepted on the official entry form. The form is designed to be completed on a computer - the answer boxes expand - if you wish to complete it by hand and need more space please contact the secretariat and a form with more room will be provided. You will need to scan your completed entry form and submit it electronically.
6. Electronic images and supporting material demonstrating the success of the entry are encouraged. To enable sharing with judges images and documents should be electronic and in PC readable format (i.e. documents in Word or Adobe Acrobat and images should in jpeg format). Your total entry, including any supporting materials, should be no more than 5 MB. If higher resolution photos are needed you will be contacted.
7. No submitted material will be returned
8. The North West Coastal Forum and any award sponsors reserve the right to use any of the submitted material for publicising the awards, the winning entries and the work of the Forum with regard to the awards. It is entrant’s responsibility to ensure that the copyright on submitted material allows this use.
9. Entries can be submitted at any time once the call for entries is open butall entries and supporting materials must be received by **30th September 2018**.
10. The decisions of the Adjudicating Panel are final
11. Entries and attached supporting information and images should be submitted by emailing them to the North West Coastal Forum Secretariat at caroline.salthouse@nwcoastalforum.org.uk
12. Failure to comply with any of the entry rules may result in the forfeiture of your entry.

**NW ACE 2018: Coastal Community Action Nomination Form**

This form is designed to be filled in on a computer. If you have any problems or need a version of the form you can write on manually please contact the Secretariat.

**Instructions for completing the form:**

* Grey text boxes: to type text click on the grey area - it will turn black. Start typing and the space will expand as needed.
* Check boxes: to place a cross in a box click on it. To uncheck a box click on it again.
* ‘Choose…’ boxes: clicking on the box will open a drop down menu - click on the relevant answer.

Send completed forms & supporting evidence to caroline.salthouse@nwcoastalforum.org.uk **by 30th September 2018**

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| **1 About the group being nominated****Group name:**      **Contact person:**      **Address:**      **Contact email:**      **Contact telephone:**      **Does this group know you have nominated them?**  |
| **2 About you** ***If different from above*****Name:**      **What is your relationship to the nominated group?**      **Address:**      **Contact email:**      **Contact telephone:**       |

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| **3a Referee 1*****A person who can vouch for the nominated group*****Name:**      **Relationship to the group:**      **Contact email:**      **Contact telephone:**       |
| **3b Referee 2*****A second referee is only needed if you are nominating your own group*****Name:**      **Relationship to the group:**      **Contact email:**      **Contact telephone:**       |
| **4 Please provide a 50 word summary of why this group should receive the award** ***This may be used in any publicity so please give careful thought to what is written here***      |
| **5 Meeting the Award Criteria** |
| **5a Which outcomes of the North West Coastal Forum does the group’s work support?** ***Mark all that apply*****[ ]  Promotion and delivery of integrated coastal zone management** **[ ]  Well-integrated planning and management of the coastal zone****[ ]  The economic potential of the NW coast achieved in ways which safeguard, enhance, restore and** **sustainably use our natural and cultural assets****[ ]  A high quality natural and built coastal environment able to adapt to climate and other change****[ ]  Improved recreational opportunities and visitor experience****[ ]  Improved well being of coastal communities****[ ]  Raised appreciation of the coast, its value and its needs** |
| **5b When has this group’s activity taken place?** ***Mark all that apply*****[ ]  2016/17****[ ]  2017/18****[ ]  Ongoing** |
| **5c Where has this group’s activity taken place?**       |
| **5d Has the impact of their work been local or wide spread?** **[ ]  Localised (e.g. a particular beach)****[ ]  Community-level (e.g. village or town)****[ ]  Wider area (e.g. several communities, or a length of coastline)****[ ]  Other (please describe in the space below)**       |
| **5e Please answer yes, somewhat, or no to the following:** **Have they demonstrated teamwork and leadership?** **Has the group encouraged participation from the community, volunteers or schools?**  **Were other people / groups / organisations from a range of sectors involved?**  **Has the group’s work contributed to building the skills and/or knowledge and awareness of those involved?**  **Has the group’s work contributed to building the skills and/or knowledge and awareness of the wider community?**  **Has the group’s work helped to create a sense of ownership of the coast by the local community?**  |
| **5f Summarise the work and overall contribution of the group, keeping in mind the award criteria and the following questions which are related to these.** ***Please note we are not asking you to answer each question separately - what we are looking for is a summary of no more than 1000 words which demonstrates these aspects of the group’s work****.** What have been the **main benefits to the community and to the coast** from the work carried out?
* What are the **key achievements and outcomes** of the group’s work?
* What are the **key elements that made the group’s work so successful**?
* What is **innovative** about the group’s work?
* How did the group ensure the **long-term benefits / legacy** of the work they have done or are doing?
* How has the group **demonstrated their wider understanding of coastal issue**s and how their work fits into the bigger picture?
* How has the group **engaged with the wider community and other organisations**? What successes resulted from this wider engagement?

**Summary:**      |
| **6 Supporting documents*****Please make a note below of any supporting documents or photographs supplied – see Entry Terms and Conditions notes 6, 7 & 8.***      |