

2008

BARKING & DAGENHAM BUSINESS AWARDS

Enter our FREE
business awards and
you could win a
£3000 cash prize.

Have you got a
gem of a business
in Barking &
Dagenham?

**BOLD &
DYNAMIC**
BARKING &
DAGENHAM
ENTERPRISE



GERMINATE BUSINESS
ROUTE TO BUSINESS BENEFIT TO CLIENTS

AJC WILSON BODYSHOP

SPX RAIL SYSTEMS

The London Borough of
Barking & Dagenham
www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk



BARKING & DAGENHAM MEANS BUSINESS.

That's the message of the first-ever Barking & Dagenham Business Awards.

These 2008 Awards are the first of what will become an annual celebration and acknowledgement of the passion, the energy and the achievement of Barking & Dagenham businesses and the people behind them.

Barking & Dagenham Enterprise, (BDE), the organisers of the Awards, also means business. BDE is a local, business-led body, supported by the Council, that inspires people to seize the opportunities created in Barking & Dagenham and by the huge Thames Gateway and London 2012 Olympic Games regeneration and development programmes.

BDE and our partners help people to start or expand a business, assist companies to relocate to Barking & Dagenham, and ensure that there are premises for businesses to start or grow.

The 2008 Business Awards event are an opportunity to celebrate the business success stories in Barking & Dagenham.

It will be a time to applaud those businessmen and businesswomen whose enterprise enlivens the present and is shaping the future.

Chris Oliver - Chairman, Barking & Dagenham Enterprise, Managing Director of AJC Wilson Bodyshop

2008 **BARKING & DAGENHAM BUSINESS AWARDS**

ABOUT THE AWARDS:

These business awards are FREE to enter and if you send in an entry you may be eligible for a place at the Gala Awards Ceremony and Dinner which is also FREE.

The categories for the 2008 Barking & Dagenham Business Awards are:

- Best New Business
- Innovation
- Growth Business of the Year
- Retailer of the Year
- Business Person of the Year
- Marketing Excellence
- Training and Development
- Business of the Year (overall winner)

You can enter for more than one category on separate forms.

The overall winner is selected from the seven categories and will be awarded the top prize of £3,000.

There is also an opportunity for your entry to go forward to the Thames Gateway Business Awards 2008. For more information: www.thamesgatewaybusinessawards.co.uk

AWARDS CEREMONY:

The winners will be announced at an evening Awards Ceremony at Castle Green on Tuesday, 8th July 2008

If you send in an entry form you and a guest may be invited to join us for this special evening which includes a celebration dinner, a multi-media show about the award-winning businesses in Barking & Dagenham and a celebrity guest compère.

All shortlisted companies will be invited and there will be a number of places allocated to companies who send in an entry form. There is no charge for attending the event.

CLOSING DATE:

All entries must be received by 5pm on Thursday, 1st May.

THE AWARD CATEGORIES:

BEST NEW BUSINESS:



Sponsor: Barking & Dagenham Small Business Centre

Barking & Dagenham Small Business Centre (BDSBC) provides support and advice to aspiring entrepreneurs and is an integral part of the East London Small Business Centre, the UK's longest established enterprise agency. In collaboration with the public and private sector, BDSBC works tirelessly helping new businesses start-up in Barking & Dagenham. BDSBC is proud to sponsor the Best New Business Award.

This category is open to all businesses registered in the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham that have started within the last two years. Entrants must be able to show how their business has progressed in line with their business plan. Success will be proven by the business and its employees having a clear understanding of their products, competitors and the marketplace in which the business operates.

What the judges will be looking for:

- When was your business formed?
- How has your business performed against your business plan, including major obstacles overcome and major successes?
- What plan does your business have for the next 3 years?

INNOVATION:



Sponsor: SPX Rail Systems

SPX Rail Systems is a business unit within SPX Fluid Power which is a division of the SPX Corporation, USA, a Fortune 500 Company. SPX Rail Systems supplies railway infrastructure equipment in UK and internationally for both track switching machines and road/rail level crossing barriers.

For this category entrants should demonstrate how they have managed to successfully introduce new ideas, techniques or technology into their organisation or marketplace. Entries for innovation may take the form of a product, service or process.

What the judges will be looking for:

- What is the idea and how was it innovative to your business?
- How was the idea implemented within your business?
- How has the idea impacted upon the business?

GROWTH BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:



Sponsor: Germinate Business Ltd

Germinate Business Ltd is a small-to-medium business solutions specialist. We are excited about the emerging business climate being developed under the leadership of Barking & Dagenham Enterprise. As other major partners play their role, we can see a clear development in terms of the local economy and in the lives of the people who live and work in Barking & Dagenham and this is why we are supporting the Business Awards.

Entrants for the growth business category need to demonstrate business growth within their competitive marketplace.

What the judges will be looking for:

- How does your business fit into your marketplace?
- What are your business's financial figures year on year (this information will remain confidential)?
- What were your plans and targets to date?
- What are your growth targets for the future?

RETAILER OF THE YEAR:



Sponsor: AJC Wilson Bodyshop

AJC Wilson is the only licensed accident repair centre in Barking & Dagenham. Our aim is to give our clients confidence. We are supporting the 2008 Business Awards because Barking & Dagenham Enterprise give us confidence that it means business.

The Retailer of the Year Award focuses on the retail businesses, both traditional and online and highlights the relationship with the consumer. It includes market traders, cafes, restaurants, sole traders and large retailers.

What the judges will be looking for:

- What makes your retail business special?
- Give an example of good service.
- What plans do you have to develop your business?

BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR:



Sponsor: Rooff Ltd

Rooff is a family run business with an impressive track record stretching back almost a century. Quality and personal service are the twin foundations of our success and have helped deliver many projects across the residential, health, education and performing arts sectors. Rooff offers a rare commodity traditional craftsmanship and expertise in a modern organisation which embraces innovation and fresh ideas.

This category is open to either a business owner or employee who has demonstrated outstanding abilities in running and developing their business. Individuals must be nominated by someone else.

What the judges will be looking for:

- The person must be working for or own a successful business or not for profit organisation in the borough.
- They must be able to show how their role has been instrumental in the growth/success of the company.
- They are well respected by customers and staff of the business.

MARKETING EXCELLENCE:



Sponsor: Gateway to London

Gateway to London is the inward investment and business retention agency for Thames Gateway London, the largest growth opportunity area in the UK. Gateway to London works with local companies, helping them to expand and grow, as well as attracting new businesses into the area. Gateway to London is proud to be able to sponsor the Marketing Excellence Award.

This award recognises the implementation of marketing to improve business performance and results. This can relate to the company as a whole or a specific project. Entries will be required to demonstrate an accomplishment which has had a positive and measurable impact on turnover within the last 12 months.

GATEWAY TO
LONDON
OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE THAMES
G A T E W A Y

What the judges will be looking for:

- An innovative or creative marketing campaign or initiative.
- An overview of your marketing plan/strategy.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:



Sponsor: Barking Power

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What the judges will be looking for:

- What is the idea and how was it innovative to your business?
- How was the idea implemented within your business?
- How has the idea impacted upon the business?

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:



Sponsor: Barking & Dagenham Borough Council

The Skills, Learning and Enterprise (SLE) division of Barking & Dagenham Council is delighted to sponsor this award. SLE coordinates the council's specialist economic and enterprise development services for residents and local businesses in the areas of employment and skills development and job brokerage. It offers support to businesses to improve their competitiveness, and promotes inward investment in the borough.

This is the top award for the overall winner and carries a cash prize of £3,000. It is open only to the winners of each of the other categories and each winner is automatically considered for the award by the judging panel. You cannot enter this award.

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HOW TO ENTER:

Read through the categories and decide which you want to apply for (you can nominate yourself for more than one category, submitting separate application forms for each one).

Your completed application must be returned to us no later than **5pm on Thursday, 1 May 2008**. No late entries will be accepted.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM:

Please ensure that you have referred to "what the judges will be looking for" under each award category. The judges will use these criteria to mark your entry.

Complete all of the details required on the form and provide up to 750 words on why you have applied for this award category. You should provide facts and figures and examples rather than general statements. You may want to include references or testimonials from customers.

You can send leaflets or additional information with your entry and we will accept up to two pieces of extra literature. All you have to do is submit the online form and put everything else into one large envelope or package and write or type the freepost address on the front of the envelope. Please make sure you have enclosed a note to us including the company name and category entered, so that we can match it with your online entry.

If you include the address below you will not be charged for the postage.

THE FREEPOST ADDRESS IS:

Freepost RRST-BKLU-RXGC
Barking & Dagenham Business Awards
c/o Bean and Company
Unit 2 Hilton Wharf
30 Norman Road
London SE10 9QX

If you need any help with completing the form, please contact:

Rhiannon Hulse
Barking & Dagenham Business Awards
c/o Bean & Co Ltd
T: 020 8858 8889
Email: rhiannon.hulse@beanco.co.uk

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- You will receive an acknowledgement that your nomination has been received.
- Your business details may be forwarded to the press for possible inclusion in a feature about the awards, please tick the box on the form if you agree.
- You will be contacted if the judges require more information or want to visit your business.
- If you are allocated a ticket for the awards ceremony, we will contact you.
- The shortlisted businesses and winners will be announced at the Barking & Dagenham Business Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, 8th July 2008 at Castle Green.

RULES OF ENTRY:

The closing date for entries is **5pm on Thursday, 1st May 2008**. No late entries will be accepted.

Companies entering must be trading in the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham.

Entries and accompanying materials will not be returned.

Completed entry forms and any accompanying documents must be signed by the company representative responsible for submitting the entry. Online forms should be sent from the company representative's email address.

All those who enter the awards agree to abide by the rules of the competition.

Places at the awards ceremony are restricted and not everyone entering for the awards will be able to attend.

The decision of the judges is final.

The judges and organisers will not enter into any correspondence.

The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony.

Winning companies will be required to feature in publicity after the awards ceremony.

