



## **ADE Awards 2026**

### **Rules**

The ADE Awards are run by ADE. They showcase innovation, best practice and achievements in two sectors. One comprises those companies creating a demand-led energy system where every user can decarbonise in a way that works for them and where that's through electrification, is rewarded for using its flexibility to help keep the lights on. The other sector comprises those delivering decarbonisation of heat through heat networks, to make sure low carbon heat networks play their rightful role in the energy transition and the UK seizes the opportunity to grow this market from 3% and a £5 billion opportunity today to more than 20% and a £100 billion opportunity by 2050. The Awards provide an opportunity for organisations and professionals from across these growing sectors to celebrate success and collective attainment.

We are looking for good news stories to help celebrate and promote our industry's achievements. We want to hear how your project made a difference, about the journey you took people on and the impact you've made.

There are four award categories:

1. Project - ADE: Heat Networks
2. Project - ADE: Demand
3. Product / Service - Excellence in Customer Care and Consumer Experience
4. Product / Service - Champion in Compliance and Consumer Protection
5. Product / Service / Project - Showcasing Innovation People's Choice Award
6. Individual - Rising Star

Each project can only be entered into one category. The judges may move entries into different categories if they feel they are a better fit.

The Rules for the ADE Awards are as follows. Entries which do not comply with these Rules will be rejected.

1. Applicants may nominate themselves or other organisations/individuals for the awards. Collaborative entries between clients and delivery partners are strongly encouraged.
2. The projects can be located anywhere in the world, as long as the company is based in the UK.
3. Entries for the Project categories are expected to have been commissioned and operational for at least six months. Project plans and designs will not be eligible for these awards.
4. Applicants for the Rising Star award must have only been working in the sector for a maximum of five years. There is no age limit.
5. Entries must be made on the appropriate application and data collection forms, available on the ADE website.
6. Entries should keep to the word limits for each section and be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (not PDF). A maximum of five A4 pages of supporting materials is permitted (10pt minimum).
7. Data entry forms must be submitted for the Project Awards. It is strongly advised that operational/technical staff assist with the completion of this form. All Data Entry forms will be



independently assessed by our Technical Advisors to help inform the judges decisions. If any data is commercial sensitive, please mark this clearly on the form.

8. Entries must also be accompanied with at least three professional-quality colour photographs or graphics of the project, organisation or individual (for promotional purposes). These must be sent as separate files and not embedded within the entry form.
  9. All information, data and images submitted as part of your application will be held by ADE and their event managers (SE<sup>2</sup>) and then shared with the judges and our technical assessors. Short non-confidential extracts of your entry forms may also be used in our promotional activities, for example in the awards booklet, in press releases, on the ADE website and in case studies.
  10. Entries must be submitted to Liz Warren at [liz.warren@se-2.co.uk](mailto:liz.warren@se-2.co.uk) by **5pm on Friday 21st August 2026**. Any queries about the application process should also be directed to Liz by email.
  11. An independent judging panel will be convened to assess the applications and judge the Awards. The panel's decision will be final. The panel will not enter into any discussion or correspondence concerning any award. The judging panel reserves the right to withhold an award if no suitable submission is received or to move entries into different categories should they deem that appropriate.
- Short-listed entries will be notified by **Friday 16th October 2026** and the winners announced at the ADE Awards Dinner on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2026 at Church House in London**.
  - Companies associated with any member of the panel are not normally eligible for consideration.

Further guidance on what makes a winning award entry is available on the ADE website.

These rules and notes can be modified from time to time at the discretion of the panel and/or ADE.