

Celebrating Excellence In Business

Thank you to our category sponsors



**EMERGING
BUSINESS**
Eastland Port



**BUSINESS
EXCELLENCE**
Character Roofing



**EXCELLENCE
IN INNOVATION**
2degrees



**COMMUNITY
IMPACT**
Tier1 Technical



**PEOPLE &
CAPABILITY**
BDO



**ENVIRONMENT &
SUSTAINABILITY**
FSL Construction & Interiors



**CROWD
FAVOURITE**
People Plus Ltd.



**SUPREME BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR AWARD**
JBWere

Awards Entry Form

*Celebrating business excellence, innovation, people,
and community impact across the local business sector.*

Welcome, thank you for entering the Tairāwhiti Business Awards 2026. These awards recognise outstanding businesses and organisations that demonstrate leadership, innovation, sustainability, strong people practices, commercial success, and meaningful contribution to the local community.

This entry form is designed to help applicants present clear, concise, and evidence-based submissions. Entrants may apply for one or more categories where eligible.

KEY INFORMATION

- Award applications close Sunday 20th of September at 5pm.
- Only answer the questions from the categories you wish to enter.
- Use clear examples and measurable results wherever possible.
- Supporting material may be attached separately, including testimonials, photos, financial summaries, or case studies – maximum 10 pages per category.
- Word limit 300 words per category.
- All information provided will be shared with the judging panel and will be treated confidentially.
- Judges reserve the right to conduct a site visit, follow-up interview, or seek evidence.

ELIGIBILITY

- Open to all businesses operating within the Tairāwhiti region.
- Entrants must have been operating for at least 6 months.
- Businesses may enter multiple categories where applicable.

Applicant Details

Business name	
Trading name (if different)	
Primary contact person	
Position/title	
Phone	
Email	
Business address	
Website	
Social media links	
Year established	
No. full-time eq. employees	
Industry sector	

Award Category Entered

Please select the categories you wish to enter. The Supreme Award* will be awarded to the business that achieves the highest rating across the categories (excluding Emerging Business).

 EMERGING BUSINESS <i>Eastland Port</i>	 PEOPLE & CAPABILITY <i>BDO</i>	 BUSINESS EXCELLENCE <i>Character Roofing</i>	 CROWD FAVOURITE <i>People Plus Ltd.</i> COMMUNITY SELECTED
 EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION <i>2degrees</i>	 ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY <i>FSL Construction & Interiors</i>	 COMMUNITY IMPACT <i>Tier1 Technical</i>	 SUPREME BUSINESS OF THE YEAR <i>JBWere</i> BEST OF THE BEST

*The Supreme Award is one of two special categories. The second is the People Plus Crowd Favourite Award which is not open for entry. It is a public vote that will run outside of this official entry process.

Business Profile

Provide a short overview of the business, including core products or services, target market, and what makes the organisation distinctive.

Attach a company organisational chart or structure if applicable.

1. Emerging Business

Award sponsored by Eastland Port

For promising and exceptional new businesses in their early growth phase (typically 1–4 years). This award recognises enterprises that have achieved clear, tangible growth in customers, revenue, or market reach, while demonstrating a strong vision and sound planning. Entrants will show how they have used their resources wisely, differentiated themselves in their market, and built a solid foundation for long term sustainability and success.

The following questions are designed to guide your thinking; you do not need to answer each one specifically.

- When was the business established, and what opportunity or need led to its creation?
- What growth has been achieved to date, such as revenue, customer base, team size, or market reach?
- What makes the business model, offer, or approach distinctive?
- What key challenges have been overcome during the establishment phase?
- What are the next steps for sustainable growth?

2. Excellence in Innovation

Award sponsored by 2degrees



For businesses that are transforming their industry through fresh thinking and creative solutions. This award celebrates organisations that have introduced innovative products, services, systems, or processes that deliver real value and measurable impact. Entrants will show how their innovation solves problems or seizes new opportunities, improves performance or customer experience, and reflects a forward thinking, adaptive approach to doing business.

The following questions are designed to guide your thinking; you do not need to answer each one specifically.

- Describe the innovation, including whether it relates to a product, service, system, or process.
- What problem does it solve or opportunity does it address?
- What results or benefits has the innovation delivered?
- How is this innovation different from what others in the market are doing?
- How will innovation continue to be embedded in the business?

3. Environmental & Sustainability Impact

Award sponsored by FSL Construction & Interiors



For businesses leading the way in responsible and sustainable practice. This award recognises organisations that have embedded environmental and sustainability principles into their strategy and day today operations, and can demonstrate measurable improvements in areas such as waste, emissions, or resource use. Entrants will show how they are innovating in sustainability, influencing others, and making a positive, lasting contribution to the environment and their community.

The following questions are designed to guide your thinking; you do not need to answer each one specifically.

- What environmental or sustainability initiatives have been implemented?
- What measurable outcomes have been achieved, such as reductions in waste, emissions, or energy use?
- How is sustainability built into everyday operations and long term strategy?
- Has the business introduced any innovative sustainability practices?
- How does the organisation influence customers, suppliers, or the wider community in this area?

4. People & Capability

Award sponsored by BDO



For businesses that recognise their people as their greatest assets and invest in them accordingly. This award celebrates organisations that foster a positive, engaging workplace culture, support staff development and wellbeing, and demonstrate strong, values based leadership. Entrants will show how they build capability, champion diversity and inclusion, and achieve real outcomes in areas such as retention, engagement, and team performance.

The following questions are designed to guide your thinking; you do not need to answer each one specifically.

- How does the business invest in staff development, training, and wellbeing?
- What creates a positive workplace culture within the organisation?
- How is leadership demonstrated across the business?
- What actions support diversity, inclusion, and belonging?
- What outcomes have been achieved in areas such as retention, engagement, or workforce capability?
- What does the businesses succession planning look like?

5. Business Excellence

Award sponsored by Character Roofing



For high performing businesses that excel across all aspects of their operation. This award recognises organisations with a clear strategy, strong financial and operational performance, and a consistent focus on delivering outstanding customer outcomes. Entrants will show how robust systems and processes support their success, how they respond to challenges and change, and how they continue to grow, improve, and lead in their market.

The following questions are designed to guide your thinking; you do not need to answer each one specifically.

- Outline business performance over the past 12 to 24 months.
- What is the strategic direction of the business, and how has it been implemented?
- How does the organisation deliver excellent customer outcomes?
- What systems, processes, or disciplines support strong performance?
- How has the business responded to challenges, risk, or changing market conditions?

6. Community Impact

Award sponsored by Tier1 Technical



For businesses that go beyond commercial success to make a meaningful difference in their community. This award acknowledges organisations that contribute time, expertise, resources, or partnerships to support local people, initiatives, and the regional economy. Entrants will show how their activities reflect genuine social responsibility and ethical practice, and can demonstrate clear, positive outcomes from their involvement in the community.

The following questions are designed to guide your thinking; you do not need to answer each one specifically.

- How does the business contribute to the local community or local economy?
- Describe any partnerships, sponsorships, volunteer activity, or community initiatives.
- What positive outcomes have these activities achieved?
- How does the organisation demonstrate social responsibility and ethical practice?
- Why is community contribution important to the business?

Declaration

By submitting this entry, the applicant confirms that:

- The information provided is true and correct to the best of their knowledge.
- They are authorised to submit this entry on behalf of the business.
- They understand that judges may request clarification or further supporting information.
- They consent to the Chamber using submitted summary information for awards administration and event promotion.

Name	
Position	
Signature	
Date	

Submission Instructions

Please submit the completed form and any supporting documents by the advertised closing date.

- Submission email: awards@gisborne.org
- Closing date: Sunday 20th of September at 5pm
- Enquiries: awards@gisborne.org

Judging Guidance

Entries are assessed on the quality of evidence provided, clarity of responses, relevance to the selected category, and demonstrated outcomes. Clear examples, measurable impact, and alignment with category criteria will strengthen the submission.

