# Missing People Police Partnership Awards 2027

Recognising outstanding contributions to missing people and their families

**Nomination Guidance Document**

The Missing People Police Partnership Awards 2027 recognise individuals, teams and partnerships making a difference to missing people and those affected by someone going missing. The awards celebrate contributions through investigation, safeguarding, prevention, partnership working and compassionate support.

This guide is for police officers, police staff, partner agencies, charities, community organisations and members of the public who would like to make a nomination.

## Key Dates

| Activity | Date |
|---|---|
| Nominations Open | 23 November 2026 |
| Nominations Close | **31 January 2027 at 23:45** |
| Eligibility Review | 1-5 February 2027 |
| Judging and Shortlisting | 8-26 February 2027 |
| Finalists Notified | Week commencing 1 March 2027 |
| Awards Ceremony | 17 March 2027 |

Awards will be announced during the closing session of the NPCC Missing People Conference at Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre, Staffordshire.

## Award Categories

### Excellence in Investigation Award

Recognising outstanding investigative practice in relation to a missing person investigation.

Recognition is not dependent on a missing person being found.

### Family Liaison and Compassion Award

Recognising exceptional support provided to missing people and families affected by a disappearance.

Open to anyone whose role involved meaningful support to missing people, families or carers.

### Partnership, Collaboration and Prevention Award

Recognising outstanding partnership working that prevents people from going missing or improves outcomes for missing people.

Open to collaborative initiatives involving police and partner organisations working together to improve outcomes.

missing people

Registered charity in England and Wales (1020419) and in Scotland (SC047419)

## Phil Shakesheff Legacy Award

Recognising individuals whose sustained commitment has made a lasting positive difference to missing people, families and the missing persons sector.

Open to individuals whose long-term contribution has improved outcomes for missing people, strengthened support for families, influenced practice, developed partnerships, or advanced missing persons work over a number of years.

## Who Can Nominate?

Nominations may be submitted by:

- Police officers and police staff
- Statutory agencies
- Charities and voluntary sector organisations
- Community organisations
- Members of the public
- Individuals making a self-nomination

## Who Can Be Nominated?

Eligible nominees include:

- Individual police officers and police staff
- Police teams, units and departments
- Multi-agency teams
- Cross-sector partnerships
- Retired police officers and police staff
- Volunteers who have made a significant contribution to missing persons work

Note: Self-nominations are permitted

Previous winners may be nominated again where the nomination relates to a separate contribution or continuing achievement.

## What Makes a Strong Nomination?

A strong nomination clearly describes the contribution and why it matters. Structure your account around four points:

- The challenge or issue: explain the situation and why action was needed.
- The actions taken: describe what the nominee did and their particular contribution.
- The impact achieved: explain what changed for missing people, families or services.
- The evidence supporting the nomination: use relevant examples, feedback or measurable results that can be shared safely.

Examples could include investigative excellence, compassionate support, prevention initiatives, safeguarding improvements, partnership working, and innovation and learning.

**Judges are looking for meaningful contribution and demonstrated outcomes rather than lengthy descriptions.** Use clear, specific examples and explain any specialist terms.

## Preparing Your Nomination

### Before you start

- Review the award category descriptions.
- Select the most appropriate category.
- Gather evidence and supporting information.
- Obtain any necessary local approvals.

### Writing your nomination

- Explain the situation or challenge.
- Describe what was done.
- Demonstrate what difference was made.
- Include measurable outcomes where possible.

Keep the focus on the award category. Where results are still emerging, distinguish outcomes already achieved from intended future benefits.

## Confidentiality and Safeguarding

- Do not include identifiable information about missing people or families unless appropriately authorised.
- Ensure information sharing complies with safeguarding, confidentiality and data protection requirements.
- Do not include information that could compromise an ongoing investigation.

If you are unsure what can be shared, seek appropriate advice and local approval before submitting your nomination.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Who can nominate?**
Police officers and staff, statutory agencies, charities, voluntary and community organisations, and members of the public.

**Can I nominate myself?**
Yes. Self-nominations are welcome.

**Can I nominate a team or partnership?**
Yes. Police teams, multi-agency teams and cross-sector partnerships are eligible.

**Can I nominate more than one person, team or partnership?**
Yes. Multiple nominations may be submitted provided each nomination meets the relevant category criteria.

**Can I nominate work from an ongoing investigation?**
Yes. Contributions from ongoing or unresolved cases can be recognised. A missing person does not need to have been found for a nomination to be considered. Only include information that can be appropriately shared and authorised.

**Can I nominate work that took place over several years?**
Yes. Nominations may relate to long-term initiative or sustained contribution where this is relevant to the category entered.

**What happens after nominations close?**
All eligible nominations are reviewed by an independent judging panel against the published category criteria. Finalists will be notified prior to the announcement of the winners.

**When will finalists be notified?**
Week commencing 1 March 2027.

**When and where is the awards ceremony?**
17 March 2027, during the closing session of the NPCC Missing People Conference at Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre, Staffordshire.

**Where can I get help?**
Contact partnerships@missingpeople.org.uk.

## What Happens Next?

All eligible nominations are assessed by an independent judging panel against the published category criteria.

| Stage | Timing |
|---|---|
| Eligibility Review | 1-5 February 2027 |
| Judging and Shortlisting | 8-26 February 2027 |
| Finalists Notified | Week commencing 1 March 2027 |
| Awards Ceremony | 17 March 2027 |

## How to Submit

Complete the online nomination form:

2027 Missing People Police Partnership Awards – Fill in form

Before submitting, ensure your nomination:

- Meets the category criteria.
- Includes relevant evidence.
- Complies with local information-sharing and approval requirements.

## Need Help?

For questions about eligibility, categories or the nomination process, contact **partnerships@missingpeople.org.uk**.

missing people

Registered charity in England and Wales (1020419) and in Scotland (SC047419)

## Ready to make a nomination?

Help us recognise the individuals, teams and partnerships making a difference to missing people and their families across the UK.

**Nominations close at 23:45 on 31 January 2027.**