Guildford Design Awards - Judging Criteria 2025

Criteria for Building Projects (Categories 1,3,4,5,6)

The Project should:

- Be capable of stimulating and delighting its users, visitors and passers by
- Development which is of the highest design quality
- Have a clear design vision that's reflected in all aspects of its design
- Be environmentally sustainable and responsible and have completed and fulfilled its sustainability statement
- Provide social value
- Demonstrate innovation and originality
- Uses materials which consider their environmental impact and the sensitive integration with its surroundings
- Have an appropriate scale- considering size, spaces and spatial experience with its surroundings
- Make a positive contribution to its immediate environment
- Incorporate aspects of accessibility for disabled persons
- Where appropriate contributes generously and positively to the public realm

Criteria for Conservation Projects (Categories 7,8)

The Project should:

- Be a building that delights its users, visitors and passers by
- Has a clear design vision that is continued through all aspects of the work
- The conservation work should demonstrate good levels of skill and craftsmanship which sensitively integrate with the original building
- Restoration work should use materials and which match those of the original building
- Some conservation projects can successfully use complementary contemporary materials and forms when this is part of the design vision
- Provide the building with an ongoing legacy or a new use which ensures its longevity
- Positively integrates and continues the heritage of Guildford

Criteria for Public Realm Projects (Categories 2,9)

The Project should:

- Be capable of stimulating and delighting its users, visitors and passers by
- Achieve public space/s of the highest design quality
- Have a clear design vision that is applied throughout the project
- Be environmentally sustainable and responsible
- Demonstrates innovation and originality
- Uses materials which complement the surrounding buildings and or landscape
- Has an appropriate scale for its location and surroundings
- Makes a positive contribution to its immediate environment
- Incorporates aspects of accessibility for disabled persons

Criteria for Public Art (Category 10)

The project should:

- Be capable of stimulating passers by
- Be a project of the highest design or creative quality
- Have a clear vision and narrative which is demonstrated in the project and its installation
- Demonstrates innovation and originality

- Uses materials which consider their environmental impact and integrate with the surroundings
- Incorporates skill and craftsmanship in its implementation