

CSR FAQs

Q: Three company sites have very strong charity partnership programmes, with different charity partners at each site. We would like to submit an application on behalf of the three sites. Is this a suitable application or should we be submitting three separate applications?

A: The activities are being undertaken by the one company, although at three sites, so one application encompassing all three sites is a suitable application.

Q: Can a company based in Northern Ireland enter on the grounds they are a travelling hub?

A: For a company to enter the Awards, they must be registered within the Republic of Ireland. We had in the past endeavoured to be as inclusive as possible in facilitating the entry of companies with strong CSR projects that had a strong connection with or footprint within the Republic.

However the feedback we have received from over the past year from other entrants, prior winners, judges and other stakeholders has been that we should ensure that the Awards are focused on recognising CSR excellence amongst Republic of Ireland registered companies. This ensures that we have a level playing field in terms of competition amongst companies, and that the shortlist and ultimate winners reflect the CSR 'marketplace' in the Republic of Ireland.

There is also a BITC Northern Ireland and British Chamber awards that businesses in the North should be entering

Q: Can 3 companies submit one project together?

A: Yes, one application as joint initiative between the three companies is fine. Collaboration is encouraged in the Awards.

Q: Should the strategic plan or other supporting documents be included as part of the application as the application itself is based on this Strategic Plan?

A: Only the application form can be submitted.

Q: For the Community Volunteering application, is there a time period which the volunteering had to take place in to be relevant for the submission? Our financial year runs from 1 Apr to 31 March so just checking if I can include from our last year of volunteering or if I need to be specific to calendar year?

A: The application doesn't need to stick to calendar year; some initiatives will span calendar years, or will coincide with a company's financial year as opposed to calendar.

Q: What constitutes a charity?

A: For the purpose of the Awards, Chambers Ireland relies on the definition of charity provided for by 'The Wheel', which requires that the charity be registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority and have a charity registration number.