

The Prosperers 2025

Essex Care Sector Awards

Award Category Criteria

Below is the Category Award Criteria for the 15 awards up for grabs. Please supply additional evidence where necessary to support your nominations. You can apply for as many categories as you wish, please use a **separate Nomination Form** for each category.

Remember the judges will base their decisions only on your completed nomination form and any supplementary evidence provided with it.

The Awards are open to all care providers (as stated in the terms and conditions) who deliver a care service to adults in Essex County Council's Local Authority geographical boundaries.

Nominations are welcome from Residential Older People Care Homes, Nursing Homes, AWD/Learning Disability services, Domiciliary Care Agencies, Extra Care Schemes and Day Centres.

Nominations close 5pm on 25th July 2025, Good Luck

Please send your completed Nomination form via email to TheProsperers@essex.gov.uk

Terms and conditions apply; please see pages 8 to 9 of this criteria.

Outstanding Carer/Support Worker Award

This category is open to all providers to nominate an individual who consistently provides good quality care, compassion, creativity, dedication and has a willingness to learn new skills and go the extra mile. Nominations can include those new to care who have brought a new dimension to their role through innovation or dedication.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following;

- Why you think they should be awarded Outstanding Carer/Support Worker?
- How does this person make a substantive yet unrecognised contribution?
- How has the person made a significant difference to the people you support?
- How has the nominee exceeded what would normally be required in their job?
- Describe how ambitious, creative or innovative this person is?

Outstanding Care Sector Nurse Award

This award recognises and celebrates nurses employed in Nursing Homes, who go above and beyond their everyday roles to provide excellent care, leadership, and inspiration to their colleagues and residents. An individual or team of Nurses who strive to be a role model for others whilst achieving the highest standard in their area of clinical practice and making a significant contribution to the quality of care received by Residents and their families.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following.

- Why you think they should be awarded Outstanding Care Sector Nurse?
- How does this person or Nursing team make a substantive yet unrecognised contribution?
- How has the person or Nursing team made a significant difference to the people you support?
- How has the nominee(s) exceeded what would normally be required in their job?
- Describe how ambitious or creative or innovative this person is?

Unsung hero Award

This category is open to all providers who would like to nominate their unsung hero, the person behind the scenes who works tirelessly, consistently demonstrating great dedication. They may not be as publicly recognised as others but greatly contributes to the smooth running of the service. This could be domestic staff, Kitchen assistants, Chefs, maintenance, administration or office staff, volunteers, families, or individuals you support. Previous winners have included the maintenance person, a resident in a care home and volunteers.

Submissions should include one or more of the following elements.

- What makes them an unsung hero?
- How have they made a substantive yet unrecognised contribution?
- How has the person made a significant difference to the people you support?
- What do they do that demonstrates ambition, dedication, creativity, or innovation?

Outstanding Leadership Award

This category is open to all providers to nominate an individual who has provided great leadership and support, is able to communicate well, acknowledges and encourages staff to make a positive contribution to the service and has had a positive impact on the recruitment and retention of staff and is an inspiration to the staff team. This could be a manager, deputy, senior carer/support worker, team lead, care co-ordinator, nurse, or area manager.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following;

- Explain how the person drives continuous improvement in their service.
- How does this person give staff the opportunity to put their ideas in to practice?
- How does this person empower their staff to drive forward innovation within their service?
- How does this person support staff well and encourage the continuous professional development of their staff?
- Describe how they lead by example and always demonstrates good practice.
- Tell us what makes this leader stand out from others?

Team of the year Award

This category is open to all providers who would like to nominate a team of people for their outstanding contribution to care services. A team who has gelled together and worked as one to deliver the best outcomes for the people they provide a service to. They have demonstrated outstanding commitment and are open and innovative in their approach.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following.

- Tell us what makes this team outstanding?
- Describe what makes this team different from others?
- How have they been innovative?
- How do they demonstrate commitment and team working?

PROSPER Award

Open only to Providers who are part of the Prosper project

This category is open to care home's who are on the Prosper project and have made a significant impact on resident's quality of life by using the Prosper methodology and tools. Whether using new initiatives and small acts of change or sustaining existing initiatives we are looking for an individual or team who regularly use PROSPER methodology to drive change in their home.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following;

- What have you implemented as part of Prosper and how has it had an impact on improving residents 'quality of life'?
- How was the Prosper methodology and resources used to improve outcomes for residents?
- Describe how it has made a significant difference?
- Describe how engaging with the PROSPER team, reading the newsletters, attending workshops and champion days have positively impacted the home.
- Describe how individual(s)/team have exceeded their normal job role to implement these changes.

Ageing Well for Adults with Disabilities Award

This award is open to all providers who would like to nominate a person or team who have demonstrated a proactive and person-centred approach to supporting individuals with a learning disability (with or without Autism) who have been identified as ageing. They should be able to evidence a good understanding of the challenges the adults face because of growing older, including health and social issues. They should also demonstrate what actions they have put in place to support them at this time in their life and how this has improved their wellbeing.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following:

- Outline how you identified the individual/s as ageing.
- Tell us how you have demonstrated a proactive and person-centred approach.
- Describe any specific actions you have taken to support them as they age.
- Describe any obstacles barriers you had to overcome.
- Detail how your interventions have improved the wellbeing of the people you provide a service to.
- Tell us how the culture within your setting has changed to focus on a more person-centred approach to support as individuals grow older.

Community Partnership Award

This category aims to recognise a provider who has worked in partnership with the community and/or other organisations, such as Health and social care to achieve the best outcomes for individual(s), integrating their service into the local community or adopting initiatives that encourage intergenerational interactions or support the wider Health and Social Care system.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following.

- Detail what you did and how you approached this?
- Tell us about any obstacles barriers you had to overcome?
- Tell us about the Services/Community who were involved?
- Describe how this improved wellbeing for the people you support?
- Explain how the partnerships came about?
- Include any feedback from the people you provide a service to or their families/friends.

Dementia Care Award

This award is open to all providers who would like to nominate a person or team who have demonstrated a proactive and person-centred approach to supporting individuals living with Dementia and is able to evidence a good understanding of the challenges they face and how they have improved their wellbeing.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following:

- Outline what you have implemented?
- Tell us how you have demonstrated a proactive and person-centred approach.
- Describe any obstacles barriers you had to overcome.
- Explain what makes your approach different and successful to what has been tried before?
- Detail how it has improved the wellbeing of the people you provide a service to with case studies and examples.
- Tell us how the culture within your setting has changed to focus on a more person-centred approach to support.

Mental Health & Wellbeing Award

This award recognises a provider/organisation or individual who invests in the Mental Health and Wellbeing of their staff, clients, families and communities. An organisation or individual who has made a positive impact on supporting others who struggle with their mental health. Who values and encourages an open and positive culture to mental health and puts the wellbeing of others first.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following;

- Tell us what you do to support Mental Health and Wellbeing in the organisation?
- Outline examples of the impact your support has had on others.
- Provide evidence of how Mental Health and wellbeing is prioritised.
- Evidence how you regularly check in with employees and/or clients to see how they're getting on and think about what might be causing them stress.
- Do you create space for staff to ask questions and raise issues, and give them permission to talk about home as well as work issues if they wish.

Activities & Wellbeing Award

This award recognises the provider/individual or team who have taken a proactive approach to improving individual's wellbeing regularly through meaningful activities that are person centred. Creating an environment where individuals are engaged, stimulated, and fulfilled. This may include where an individual, living in their own home, attending a day service or in a residential care setting, has been enabled to maintain an interest or activity that is important to them.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following;

- Outline what have you done, telling us about the innovative activities you have created.
- Tell us how you have managed to maintain an individual's pre-existing interest or hobbies or supported them to find new interests or activities?
- Tell us how this has improved the wellbeing of the people you support including case studies and examples.

Digital Impact & Technology Award

This category is open to all providers who have embraced new technologies and used digital solutions to keep the people you provide a service to safe and well. Connecting workforces, individual(s) or strengthening relationships with partner organisation through technological and digital solutions, which could be aimed at prevention, maintaining independence, improving wellbeing, early identification of deterioration or making improvements in how the service is run.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following.

- Tell us about the digital or technological solutions you have adopted
- How did you implement the solution?
- Did you work in partnership with others?
- What was the impact on the individual(s) you provide a service to?
- How has it made a difference?

Palliative Care Award

This award recognises an individual or provider who provide a high-quality, person centred approach to palliative care which optimises quality of life and recognises how choices made by the person being cared for and their family are central to the service and care that is delivered. Providing care, support, and comfort to those in the last year and last days of life.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following:

- How the individual or service has made a real difference to the wellbeing and comfort to individuals in their end-of-life journey.
- How they have worked in partnership with other services to enable a true person centred approach

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Award

This award is open to all provider organisations and individuals who promote the values of equality, diversity and inclusion. Demonstrating a commitment to the spirit of equality, diversity and inclusion, through behaviour, positive interaction, leadership, and exceptional efforts to promote an inclusive environment for all. Promoting a culture of honesty and sensitivity when talking about difficult conversations, creating a sense of safety and openness for staff, the people you provide a service to and their families.

Submissions should include evidence to support the following.

- Tell us about your approach to equality, diversity, and inclusion.
- How have the values of equality, diversity and inclusion been promoted.
- How has it made a difference to individual(s), staff, families, and the people you provide a service to

Climate Action: Towards Net Zero

This category is open to all providers who would like to nominate an individual or team who have used a proactive approach to support Climate change. Using innovative initiatives to help Essex to become net zero by 2050, making climate change sustainable by reducing carbon in care settings/environments. This may include small changes within the setting, community engagement or working as a team to create a low carbon organisation. This award supports Essex County Councils Net Zero/Carbon climate change action plan.

Submissions may include evidence to support the following:

- Describe what changes have been put in practise to positively impact the local environment, for example this could include recycling, utilising greenspace, growing your own food.
- Detail how you have influenced others and increased awareness of climate change in your work environment.
- Tell us how the culture within your setting has changed to focus on a lower carbon organisation. This could include raising awareness of climate change, committing to actions to reduce carbon footprint.
- Outline what you have implemented to help become a low carbon society, for example this may include reducing single use plastic, reducing emissions, sourcing locally produced food, including more plant-based meals, making the organisation more energy efficient.

Nominations close 5pm on 25th July 2024, Good Luck

Please send your completed Nomination form via email to TheProspers@essex.gov.uk

Terms and conditions for Essex Care Sector Awards: The Prospers 2025

This competition is organised by Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford. CM1 1LX

Essex County Council reserves the right to cancel or amend the Competition or terms and conditions without notice in the event of any factor outside Essex County Council's reasonable control. Any changes will be posted either within these terms and conditions or the Competition Notice.

A copy of the terms and conditions may also be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Essex Care Sector Awards, Provider Quality Innovation Team, E3 Zone 4, County Hall, Market Road, Chelmsford. CM1 1QH.

Rules:

1. Entries should be submitted by email to theprosper@essex.gov.uk
2. Opening date for entries is **9th June 2025**
3. Closing date is **5pm on 25th July 2025** – Entries received after this time shall not be accepted;
4. Entry is restricted to:
 - a) Residential care homes & Nursing Homes;
 - b) Domiciliary Care agencies;
 - c) Supported living schemes;
 - d) Extra Care Schemes
 - e) Day care services

that provide services to **Adults** (for the avoidance of doubt this includes the provision of services to Older People) within the Essex County Council Local Authority geographical boundaries.
5. Submissions must reflect innovative achievements that are the direct result of current implemented practice by the provider which is evidenced by a positive impact on those people they support.
6. Submissions can be supported with supplementary evidence in several ways including data, anecdotal evidence, photographs and testimonials from related parties. Any personal information including photographs must either be anonymised or submitted with full permission of the person identified and will be subject to scrutiny under General Data Protection Regulations.
7. No responsibility is taken by Essex County Council for entries that are illegible, misdirected, lost for technical or other reasons.
8. By entering the competition, entrants are deemed to have read and understood these rules and agree to be bound by them.
9. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on Wednesday 3rd December 2025.
10. Winners will receive an award trophy and a certificate identifying the category they have won.
11. Submission of an entry indicates approval by the entrant to be named in publicity (although further permission will be sought in the case of photographs, should they be sought by the media or Essex County Council).
12. Essex County Council reserves the right to disqualify any entrant if the entry contains any illegal or offensive content or it has reasonable grounds to believe the entrant has breached any of the Rules.

13. No cash or other prize alternative is available.

Data Protection:

Essex County Council recognises that your privacy is important to you and we use the latest technologies & best practices to secure all personal information. Essex aims to preserve your privacy at all times and will not disclose your personal information to third parties unless it is required to do so by law or it, in good faith, believes that such action is necessary to:

- Comply with the law or with legal process
- Protect and defend our rights and property
- Protect against misuse or unauthorised use of this website
- Protect the personal safety or property of our customers or the public (among other things, this means that if you provide false registration information or attempt to pose as someone else, information about you may be disclosed as part of any investigation into your actions)

All personal information shall be destroyed at the end of the competition and shall not be stored by Essex County Council or passed to any third parties unless required to do so by law or it, in good faith, believes that such action is necessary to comply with the above bulleted points.