

## **HEART OF THE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2026 – NOMINATION GUIDANCE**

Volunteers' Week, taking place nationally from 1–7 June, is a wonderful opportunity to shine a light on the incredible people who give their time to support our communities. This year, Voluntary Action Angus is thrilled to host the Heart of the Community Awards—an event dedicated to honouring the outstanding contributions of volunteers and groups across Angus.

### **Nominations Overview**

- Closing Date: 13 March 2026
- Awards Ceremony: 6 June 2026

### **Who can make nominations?**

Nominators must:

- Live or work in Angus
- Must not be related to nominees
- Must ensure nominees are aware of their nomination
- Can submit up to 3 nominations per category

### **Who is eligible for a nomination?**

#### **Individual Nominees:**

- Must have volunteered in Angus for at least 6 months.
- Aged 18+ for Adult Awards; 11–17 years for Youth Awards.
- Volunteer activity must be verified by an organisation or professional

#### **Group/ Organisation Nominees:**

- Must consist of 3+ volunteers.
- Must operate in Angus for at least 6 months.
- Must be a voluntary, not-for-profit organisation

## **What are we looking for when choosing our winner?**

A strong nomination clearly describes the volunteer or group's role, contributions, and impact, supported by a personal story that helps the panel understand their difference. Make your nomination shine by:

- Describing specific roles, activities, and achievements
- Explaining the impact on individuals, organisations, or the community
- Highlighting skills, commitment, and personal qualities
- Telling a clear, personal story

Following the criteria will help ensure your nomination is considered. Let's celebrate those who go above and beyond for our community!

## **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS Adult (18+) & Youth (11-17)**

**Behind-the-Scenes:** For volunteers who quietly ensure things run smoothly through background support.

**Creative & Cultural:** For contributions that enrich arts, heritage, or cultural life.

**Fundraising:** For exceptional commitment to raising vital funds or resources.

**Environmental:** For improving green spaces, biodiversity, or sustainable practices.

**Health & Wellbeing:** For supporting the wellbeing of individuals or communities.

**Sports & Activity:** For increasing access to sport and physical activity.

**Volunteer Leadership:** For inspiring and supporting others through strong leadership.

**Board Member of the Year:** For outstanding governance and strategic contribution.

**Volunteer / Young Volunteer of the Year:** For exceptional commitment and positive impact.

**Lifetime Achievement:** 18+ only: For long-term, sustained service with lasting community benefits. Recognition of sustained dedication, effort, and impact over many years.

## GROUP AWARDS

**Creative & Cultural:** For groups enriching community life through arts or heritage.

**Sports & Activity:** For increasing access to physical activity and improving wellbeing.

**Health & Wellbeing:** For supporting community wellbeing and reducing isolation.

**Environmental:** For group efforts improving nature, sustainability, or climate action.

**Board of the Year:** For strong governance and leadership.

**Community Impact:** For significant, positive change driven by local need.

**Team Excellence:** For outstanding teamwork and collaborative impact.

## SALTIRE SUMMIT AWARD Ages 11–25

The highest level of the Scottish Saltire Awards recognises young volunteers who go above and beyond. Nominees typically complete 200+ hours and must be nominated by their organisation. Further information will be requested from you by VAA's Youth Development Worker.

### How to nominate

Please proceed by clicking the link below or scanning the QR code to submit your nomination. Before submitting, ensure you have the following information prepared:

- Nominee's contact number and email address
- For Youth Awards, parent/carer or organisational contact details are also required



[Heart of the Community Awards](#)  
[Nomination Form](#)