

# NatWest SE100 announces shortlist for 2015 Awards

*Ashley Community Housing (ACH) shortlisted for NatWest SE100 Awards  
The UK's top performing social enterprises in the running to win a share of over  
£32k prize fund.*

Today it was announced that Ashley Community Housing (ACH), a social enterprise based in Bristol and the West Midlands, has been shortlisted for Natwest SE100 Awards.

Going up against an array of UK-based organisations, Ashley Community Housing has been shortlisted for the **Impact Champion Award**.

Now in its 6th year, the leading market intelligence tool for social ventures, the NatWest SE100 Index, is pleased to announce the shortlist for its 2015 awards.

The Index is an online listing of social ventures, ranked and scored according to their growth and social impact.

The 2015 winners will win a share of over £32,000 in prize money that will be awarded at the NatWest SE100 Annual Awards on the 19th October 2015, at the Good Deals social investment conference in London. The shortlist is divided into five categories: Sustainable Growth, Social Impact, Trailblazing Newcomer and the Resilience and Storyteller award.

A total of 21 organisations have been shortlisted from all over the UK highlighting the strength of the social enterprise sector and its ability to create both social change and economic growth nationwide.

Ashley Community Housing (ACH) is a long standing social enterprise whose growth from a small community organisation to a respected social business is evidence of its true commitment to developing the communities in which it operates. It is a tale of social impact unmatched by larger peers. It has been shortlisted twice for the social enterprise of the year award in the Lloyds Bank National Business Awards as well as recently winning Stevie International Business Silver Awards 2015.

Alongside providing much needed accommodation for homeless individuals, Ashley Community Housing delivers training to enable marginalised people to move towards employment and to

realise a better future for themselves. It is a social enterprise committed to developing the communities in which they operate.

ACH are an example of how housing associations can not only incubate and develop their own social enterprises but how the sector can do even more. It is their aim to achieve genuine scale and social impact in all their services.

### **Awards & Shortlist Info:**

Regional represented:

- 2 from the North West
- 2 from the East Midlands
- 1 from the North East
- 8 from London
- **3 from the West Midlands**
- 1 from Scotland
- 2 from East of England

Sectors represented:

- 5 from Education and Youth
- 4 from Health and Social Care
- 4 from Employment and Training
- As well as.... Regeneration and Community Development, Environment and Recycling, Housing, Retail, Finance, Marketing and Communications

### **Growth champion nominees:**

Blue Ventures  
Dementia Adventures  
Teaching Leaders  
The Education Business Partnership (EBP)

### **Impact champion nominees:**

**Ashley Community Housing**  
Community Together  
FRC Group  
Kelvin Valley Honey  
MyBnk

**Trailblazing newcomer nominees:**

Andiamo  
Developing Youth Practice  
HumanCamera  
Sweet Cavanagh

**Storyteller award nominees:**

Aduna  
Blue Ventures  
Echo Your Sport  
Human Camera  
John Taylor Hospice  
Little Forest Folk

**Resilience award nominees:**

Bitá Pathways  
Five Lamps  
Social Enterprise Kent  
The Reader

Julie Baker, Head of Enterprise, NatWest, said: "Social Enterprises make a massive difference to local economies and communities across the UK and beyond. They are run by inspirational people who want to make a difference. That is why at NatWest we want to support them to get access to the finance, support and networks they need to flourish. That way not only do they benefit, but the economy benefits and our society benefits. We congratulate all shortlisted enterprises and look forward to celebrating their success at the awards ceremony on 19th October."

ACH Chair, Andy Burkitt, comments: "ACH is a housing organisation but it is also much more; our tenants arrive often having experienced great trauma in their lives and with little or no experience of English culture. We are committed to support and training for all our tenants. We want them all to find employment. We believe in partnerships with other groups to further the needs of the local community. We are passionately committed to proper equality and diversity initiatives. We work with local MPs, Councillors and Councils to further the situation of our tenants and the wider community.

The aim of ACH is to do good, help the community, and carry this out in a way that acts as a model for other businesses in the regions we operate in."

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If you could like to speak to Ashley Community Housing's spokesperson please  
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