Recognition Scheme

Long Service Awards

1. Background

EVH in its original guise came into being in 1978. Service on the EVH Governing Body (Executive Committee) is important and valued. As a member led organisation EVH cannot operate without a fully functioning Executive which is representative of the wider membership. With that in mind there is an internal recognition scheme which celebrates long service on the Executive.

However, there are a number of other volunteers and staff within our member organisations too who have toiled long and weary in supporting local aims.

As an organisation, EVH supports the concepts of voluntarism, localism and subsidiarity. It also values the long service that so many local people give to organisations within their communities and wants to see this better celebrated and recognised.

This scheme, as described below, came into effect from 1 August 2015.

2. Formal Recognition

EVH will recognise service of 25 years or more from any member of the local governing body; or 30 years or more service from any staff member within our member organisations.

It is commonly the case that there are elections each year within local governing bodies and thus, serving members may come and go from time to time. With this in mind, any service need not be counted on a continuous basis but instead can be aggregated for the various periods of governing body membership over time.

Similarly, staff may move around member employers over time. Again service amongst different EVH member organisations over time can be counted on an aggregated basis.

3. Awards

There are several options available on how the winners can receive their awards:

1. We can present any new awards at our December Member Information Exchange. At this event we also invite all those that have received a Long Service Award throughout the year so that we can re-present their awards and celebrate with them.
2. The award can be posted out for organisations to present to the winners themselves. This would let nominees receive their awards surrounded by people they know.
3. We will be happy to present winners with their awards locally at any event, committee meeting, staff day or any other suitable gathering.
4. Or for the shyer types, we still have the option to pop in the post without any fuss.

4. Nominations

Nominations can be made at any time in line with local people approaching their 25 or 30-year mark. Nominations must come officially from the organisation rather than an individual. Nominations should be addressed to the Director of EVH and give brief details of the person being nominated and their service.

Optionally, nominations can also show any service highlights/funny stories that could be (legally) featured in the presentation speech and website article.

5. Disputes

We will be fairly relaxed and will stretch the point to include, rather than exclude, people from receiving an award. However, in the event of a dispute over any aspect of this scheme (written or implied), the Executive alone shall have the final decision-making power. There is absolutely no opportunity for any person to raise any form of appeal against any such decision. No person has any right to be heard in relation to any dispute but may raise an issue by writing to the Chair of EVH.

That being said, we want to give away loads of awards – so nominations are very much encouraged.