

News release

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Housing is a basic right. The Saltire Society believes GOOD housing is a basic right.

The Saltire Housing Design Awards 2019 launched.

Nominations are now open for the 2019 Saltire Society Housing Design Awards guest chaired by Director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, Nick Barley.

The Saltire Housing Awards are different. Rewarding innovation and advocating Scottish house building and place making for longer than any other design award in Scotland; the Awards work to encourage good, affordable, adaptable and environmentally sustainable housing in Scotland.

At its best, housing can improve a community, its health and wellbeing, adding positively to not only Scotland's architectural landscape but its social landscape.

Open to entries from Owners, Clients, Architects, House-builders and Housing Developers of all shapes and sizes across Scotland, the awards seek projects that add positively to Scotland's architectural and social landscape.

Last year's winners included Leith Fort, an exceptional project that regenerates a historic site with a mix of midmarket and social rent housing. And Inclusive Family Home by Chambers McMillan Architects, a nondescript semi-detached bungalow in Edinburgh, renewed and recast to create an exceptional project that leveraged a modest budget to produce a truly inclusive home.

The *Innovation in Housing Award*, sponsored by The Scottish Government, celebrates the pioneering spirit, for projects and ideas that, including but not limited to, offer new approaches, use of new technology and innovative construction methods. The Awards complement the Scottish Government's vision for their housing policy; to encourage innovative and original projects and ideas which will promote debate and implementation. Last year's winner was Bath Street Collective Custom Build, but John Kinsley Architects, which saw innovative form of procurement in Scotland, produce four very cost-effective flats in an urban context.

Details on the Awards and how to apply can be found at: saltiresociety.org.uk

Submissions must be received by noon on 8 March 2019 with the awards ceremony due to take place in Edinburgh in late June.

Nick Barley, Guest Chair of the 2019 Saltire Housing Design Awards, said of the Awards:

The Saltire Housing Awards are special because they are about more than just good design: they reward housing schemes that make Scotland a better, more inclusive place to live. Judged by a group of experts drawn from across the spectrum of the housebuilding sector, the process includes interviewing the people who live in the houses as well as the people who designed and built them. The winning projects will be the ones that help improve lives in Scotland.

Sarah Mason, Programme Director of the Saltire Society, said of the Awards launch:

We are delighted to be running the Saltire Housing Design Awards in 2019. The need for these Awards and the recognition of good housing design for all and the innovation used to make that housing possible is more vital now, than when the Awards were established in 1937. The Saltire Housing Awards are unique in their ethos and we hope set the bar for architects, planners, clients, house builders and developers as to what housing can and should be in Scotland.

We are pleased to welcome Nick Barley as this year's guest chair, bringing fresh insights to the judging of the Awards and choosing the recipient of the coveted Saltire Medal. Nick will be supported by a panel of committed and expert practitioners and panel Convener David Jamieson.

We look forward to seeing the projects that come in for the Awards.

ENDS

Notes to editors

For more information or images contact 0131 556 1836 or saltire@saltiresociety.org.uk

About the Saltire Society

The Saltire Society seeks to encourage everything that might improve the quality of life in Scotland. It works to preserve all that is best in Scottish traditions and to encourage new developments which can strengthen and enrich the country's cultural life. It acts as a catalyst, celebrant and commentator through an annual programme of awards, lectures, debates and projects. Founded in 1936, the



Saltire Society is a non-political independent charity with membership branches throughout Scotland.

Membership of the Saltire Society is open to all individuals and organisations that support the aims of the Society.

About the Housing Design Awards

Intended for Owners, Clients, Architects, House-builders and Housing Developers of all shapes and sizes, the length and breadth of Scotland – the awards recognise everything from single dwellings in the remotest reaches of the Highlands, to large-scale commercial developments in the country's major urban centres.

For further information about the 2019 Saltire Housing Design Awards including details of how to apply and an application form, please visit: www.saltiresociety.org.uk/awards/architecture/housing-design/