

## MEDIA RELEASE FROM MERSEYSIDE CIVIC SOCIETY

21 July 2023

### Merseyside Civic Design Awards launched

Merseyside Civic Society (MCS) launched the inaugural **Merseyside Civic Design Awards (MCDA)** on National Civic Day 2023, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. National Civic Day is an initiative started in 2011 by Civic Voice, the national charity for the civic movement, of which MCS is a proud member. Civic Day is a national celebration of civic pride and MCS has previously participated by hosting publicly engaging 'State of the City' events at the Bluecoat in Liverpool.

The Merseyside Civic Design Awards are launched to coincide with the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Merseyside Civic Society in 1938 and inclusively cover the whole of Liverpool City Region – Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral.

*'The Awards will recognise high quality projects that enhance our shared experience of the places that surround us.'*

Andrew Jackson, MCS Council Member and MCDA Chair

They will be awarded biennially over six project categories; New Build, Conservation, Landscape, Infrastructure, Hospitality and Community, as well as a public art award named in memory of Felicity Wren, the much-missed local artist and MCS Council Member who died in 2019.

Nominations for 2023 can be drawn from the past five years to allow for time lost during the pandemic, although future rounds will only accept projects completed within the previous three years.

# COLLABORATE \ CAMPAIGN \ CELEBRATE

There is also a Test of Time Award, presented to a project completed since the founding of Merseyside Civic Society that is deemed by the MCS Council (the Society's Trustees and others) to function as well today as it did when first designed. The other categories will be assessed by a panel of invited judges, including Civic Voice's Ian Harvey. Merseyside-born Ian is the Executive Director of Civic Voice and was one of its founders following closure of the Civic Trust in 2009.

The public can nominate projects via the MCS website [www.merseysidecivicsociety.org](http://www.merseysidecivicsociety.org)

Nominations close on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August and a winners' ceremony will take place at a venue to be confirmed later in the year. For updates follow @MerseyCivic on Twitter.

ENDS

Further Information from Andrew Jackson on [events@merseysidecivicsociety.org](mailto:events@merseysidecivicsociety.org)

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