Entry Form: LARIA Research Impact Awards 2018

Good luck in entering the LARIA Research Impact Awards 2018. These awards aim to showcase the impact research has at a local level.

**Can I apply?**

The key criteria are that award winners should show us excellence in research that is making a real difference to the people they serve. The awards focus on research impact based on a sound evidence base. We will also be looking for entries that are demonstrating citizen/user involvement/engagement, partnership working, delivering positive outcomes, achieving efficiencies, and embracing innovation.

All entries must include at least one LARIA member and a public sector body. Entry is free to all LARIA corporate members. If you are not a member please join (it only costs £80) or pay a separate £80 fee to enter the awards.

**What’s in it for you?**

LARIA strongly supports the awards to showcase how local researchers help public sector organisations make evidence based decisions. By entering these awards we hope you will be able to identify how your work makes an impact. It is a good exercise in itself to consider the questions we ask and we would encourage you to discuss your entry with your team and within your organisation and with partners. If shortlisted, and hopefully as a winner, you will be showcased as demonstrating best practice in our sector. This will raise your profile both within your organisation and externally. We will also accept entries from independent researchers. We will publish winning submissions so you will be helping the sector by sharing best practice. An award will also demonstrate that your organisation or client values evidence-based decision-making and research that makes a real impact.

**How to apply**

* Download this Word document onto your computer and save your responses directly onto this form.
* Please use one form per entry
* Please return to Sarah Welsh at admin@laria.org.uk by **2pm Monday 12th February 2018.**

The shortlist will be published in March 2018 and awards will be presented at the LARIA Annual Conference dinner on 22nd May 2018.

We look forward to hearing from you and good luck.

Neil Wholey

Chair

LARIA

Award Categories

**A: Best use of local area research – Sponsored by the Local Government Association (LGA)**

To win this award the successful entrant will show how their research has led to a greater understanding of a local area or an issue that is locally important. This could be based on primary or secondary analysis. Not only that, but they must also show that this has led to evidence-based decision-making within at least one public sector body. Judges will be looking for submissions that show a well-argued methodology, clear reporting of the findings and impact. Ideally the winner will also show strong partnership working, citizen/user involvement/engagement, innovation, and the outcomes that have been achieved locally.

**B: Best use of social care or health research**

To win this award the successful entrant will show how their research has led to a greater understanding of a social care or health issue. This could be based on primary or secondary data analysis. Not only that, but they must also show that this has led to evidence-based decision-making within the social care or health sectors. Our definition of social care and health sectors is in the broadest sense and includes public health. We would welcome entries that address issues relating to health and social care integration. Judges will be looking for submissions that show a well-argued methodology, clear reporting of the findings and impact. Ideally the winner will also show strong partnership working, citizen/user involvement/engagement, innovation, and the outcomes that have been achieved locally.

**C: Best use of data**

To win this award the successful entrant will show how they have successful used data to aid understanding of a local area, community or health issue. Not only that, but they must also show that this has led to evidence-based decision-making within at least one public sector body. Data for the purposes of this award is defined as the use of big data, open data, business intelligence and statistical analysis. Judges will be looking for evidence that data has been analysed and presented to a high standard for a specific business purpose or issue. The use of the data will have delivered an insight that has aided decision making. We would welcome entries that show the use of data in the day-to-day management of a service. Judges will be looking for submissions that show a well-argued methodology, clear reporting of the findings and impact. Ideally the winner will also show strong partnership working, citizen/user involvement/engagement, innovation, and the outcomes that have been achieved locally.

**D: Most engaging communication of local area research**

To win this award the successful entrant will show how they have successfully communicated local area research to aid understanding of a local area, community or health issue. The audience for this communication could include senior decision-makers, staff, the media and the public. The format of the communication could include (but is not limited to) a written report, conference presentation, event/seminar, videos, infographics, an online portal/website or use of media. Judges will be looking for submissions that show a creative approach that understands the needs of the audiences receiving the information. There should be evidence that research findings have been reported clearly and are fairly represented by the communication of it. Ideally the winner will also show strong partnership working, citizen/user involvement/engagement, innovation and the outcomes that have been achieved locally. In entering the category submissions can include a copy of the actual communications, including full or edited reports or links to online resources.

**E: New researcher of the year**

This award is given to a researcher with under five years of experience in a research field who has made an impact. This could be a person of any age. The entry could be based on a particular project they have led, an innovation they have pioneered or a particularly strong skill set. Their career to date should show a researcher who is able to conduct research that provides insightful analysis, promotes citizen/user involvement/engagement, presents information well, and helps develop evidence-based decision-making in the public sector. We will accept entrants who have had a longer career in research than five years, but have moved into a new research field of which they have under five years of experience. The researcher cannot nominate themselves for this award.

**About the organisation or organisations who are entering**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of organisation(s) or independent researcher(s) entering the award** (as it will appear in any published document) |  |
| **Are you a public sector body?** (delete as applicable) | Yes/No |
| **Are you a Corporate LARIA member?** (entry is free for a Corporate Member, £80 for all other applicants including Associate or Full LARIA members) | Yes/No |
| **Do you agree to us publishing your award entry in full if you are shortlisted?** | Yes/No |

**Your contact details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| **Job title** |  |
| **Organisation** (if applicable) |  |
| **LARIA Member** (only LARIA members can enter awards) | Yes/no |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Tel number** |  |
| **In providing your contact details you are confirming that you take full responsibility for your award entry and have obtained all necessary permissions from the organisations you are submitting on behalf of before submitting this application** | |

**Your entry (awards A-D)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category you are entering** |  |
| **Name of your entry** (as it will appear in any published document) |  |
| **Summary of your entry**  ***Word limit***  ***(200 words)*** |  |
| **Wow factor**  Give us the most important lesson learned, fact discovered or observation made within your entry  ***Word limit***  ***(50 words)*** |  |
| **Synopsis**  How does your entry meet the criteria for this award?  What were the objectives and what impact did you have?  How did you show partnership working, citizen/user involvement/engagement and innovation?  ***Word limit***  ***(500 words)*** |  |
| **What should LARIA members learn from your award entry?**  ***Word limit***  ***(200 words)*** |  |
| **Is there a published report or background information on your study publically available? Please provide this link.**  (This will be not consulted as part of this submission but we may publish a link if you are successfully shortlisted) |  |

**Your entry (awards E)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category you are entering** | New researcher of the year |
| **Name of new researcher** (as it will appear in any published document) |  |
| **How do you know the applicant?** (you cannot nominate yourself) |  |
| **I confirm this person has been employed as a researcher for under three years** | Yes |
| **Have you received permission from the applicant to make this submission** | Yes |
| **Wow factor**  **Give us the most important reason why they should win**  **(50 words)** |  |
| **Summary**  **How does this person meet the criteria for this award?**  **Word limit**  **(300 words)** |  |
| **Do they have a LinkedIn page, Twitter account or blog used in a professional capacity? Please provide this link.**  (This will be not consulted as part of this submission but we may publish a link if they are successfully shortlisted) |  |

**Rules of entry**

1. Submissions must be made on the forms provided and within the word limits set out
2. One form must be used for each entry
3. All entries must be made by a LARIA member
4. All entries for awards A-E can be entered by a private sector research company, but they must include at least one public sector body as a client/partner
5. All entries made by a LARIA Corporate member will be made free of charge. If you are not a LARIA Corporate member please join before entering the awards (it only costs £80). If you do not wish to be a member you will need to pay £80 to enter the awards
6. The main contact is responsible for ensuring all permissions have been sought within their organisation or partnership – especially in regards to the publication of information provided
7. LARIA reserves the right to publish all the information provided in this entry in the form of a case study – this includes online – unless otherwise stated
8. The judges’ decisions are final. LARIA will not enter into correspondence about why an entry was not selected as a finalist
9. No free tickets to the awards dinner will be provided automatically to entrants. Tickets are available to purchase separately or as part of attendance at conference. If you cannot accept in person we will ask you to nominate someone who is attending the dinner.
10. Please return to Sarah Welsh at admin@laria.org.uk by **2pm Monday 12th February 2018**