

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 11th October 2016

Judges unveiled for Liverpool Retail Awards 2017

A panel of leading names from Liverpool's retail scene have been confirmed as judges at the city's first ever Retail Awards.

The awards, which were announced last month, are a joint project between Liverpool BID Company and Liverpool ONE, along with partners Marketing Liverpool. They aim to showcase the outstanding retailers, large and small, who are going the extra mile in terms of customer service and retail innovation in the city centre.

The eleven judges will be tasked with reviewing all of the entries from the 12 award categories before the public cast their vote on who they think should win the 'Retail ICON of the Year' and 'Customer Service' awards.

The judging line-up includes Chris Brown from Marketing Liverpool, Donna Howitt from Liverpool ONE, Robert Bradley from St Johns Shopping Centre, Ian Strettle from Clayton Square Shopping Centre, Jennina O'Neill from Metquarter Liverpool and Bill Addy from the Liverpool BID Company. Joining them on the panel will be Mouna Wade from Beauty Bazaar Harvey Nichols, Laura Flynn from Topshop, Mark Povall from Liverpool John Lennon Airport, Carl Wood from Trinity Mirror, Leon Rossiter from Independent Liverpool and Mark Blundell from John Lewis.

Chief executive of Liverpool BID Company, Bill Addy said: "As the first ever Retail Awards in the city, the calibre of people we have working with us shows the appetite for recognising the talent we have in the industry.

"We have some of the biggest retail businesses in Liverpool on the panel who will bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. I'm looking forward to working with them all and discovering the hidden gems and shining stars in our city."

Marketing and business performance director for Liverpool ONE, Donna Howitt, ~~who is also a judge,~~ added: "The Retail Awards Liverpool will help celebrate top quality customer experiences, and why it feels so special to shop in Liverpool compared to other cities. Our retail colleagues work hard to ensure customers feel the warmth Liverpool is famous for as well as representing their brands so professionally; and I look forward to celebrating their achievements next March."

Chris Brown, director of Marketing Liverpool said: "I am delighted to participate in judging what I know will be a high calibre of entries that will reflect the quality of the retail offer available within the city. Retail plays a key role in driving inward investment and bringing tourism to the city and so it's important we shine the spotlight on it."

The awards will culminate in a glittering ceremony to be held at Liverpool Cathedral on Thursday, 23 March 2017 where all the winners will be announced.

The deadline for submitting entries is Monday 28th October.

The 12 award categories are:

- Best National Retailer
- Best Independent Retailer
- Best Retail Team
- Social Impact Award
- Best Employer
- Rising Star
- Excellence in Visual Merchandising Award
- Innovation Award
- Best New Store Award (less than 12 months old)
- Retail Manager of the Year Award
- Customer Service Award
- Retail ICON of the Year Award

For nominations, please visit: www.retailawardsliverpool.co.uk

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Liz at OCD events by emailing: lizd@ocdevents.co.uk.

ENDS

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Liverpool Retail Awards

The Retail Awards Liverpool will recognise outstanding retailers within the city centre; both big and small and those going the extra mile in the realms of customer service and innovation.

Visit www.retailawardsliverpool.co.uk for details and to enter.

Deadline for nominations is Monday, 28th October

About Liverpool BID Company

Liverpool BID Company is an independent non-profit organisation representing more than 1,500 businesses in Liverpool city centre through City Central BID and Commercial District BID (Business Improvement District).

The Liverpool BID area covers some of the most iconic locations in Liverpool city centre, from Bold Street and St Johns, to Metquarter and Queen Square, including the Cavern Quarter and the Commercial District which covers from Derby Square up to Leeds Street.

The main focus of the organisation is to support and improve business trading environments by investing monies, raised from a levy and sponsorship, into a programme of events, environmental and safety projects, as well as marketing the city centre as a world class visitor destination and business location.

For more information on the Liverpool BID Company please visit:

www.liverpoolbidcompany.com

Commercial District BID

In March 2016, the Commercial District BID secured a five-year renewal until 2021 and is now delivering its £4m masterplan to improve this area. Key areas of improvement include:

- Connectivity
- Environment and safety
- Business support
- Marketing and animation



[Click here to read the Commercial District BID Business Plan 2016-2021](#)

City Central BID

Established in 2005, it represents more than 630 businesses across the retail and leisure heart of Liverpool city centre. It was successful in a rebalot in July 2013 to deliver a new 5 year programme.

City Central BID's role is to promote the city centre as a safe, clean, attractive and vibrant destination and to host events that will help generate footfall.

[Click here to read the City Central BID Business Plan 2013-2018](#)

www.liverpoolbidcompany.co.uk / @LpoolBIDCompany

Liverpool ONE

Liverpool ONE is one of Europe's leading retail and leisure destinations, set in the heart of Liverpool city centre. Built around the existing streets of Liverpool, the 1.65million sq ft contemporary open-air complex is a stylish must-see destination for those who love to shop, eat, drink and relax.

Liverpool ONE includes over 160 stores, bars and restaurants, a fantastic 14 screen cinema, an indoor adventure golf course and a five-acre park. Stores include high street favourites such as Topshop, John Lewis and Debenhams.

Peter's Lane, Liverpool ONE's designer fashion hub, is the home of big brand style. It plays host to stores including Michael Kors, Radley, Reiss, Hobbs, Ted Baker London, Karen Millen and Flannels. You'll also find the first Beauty Bazaar, Harvey Nichols in the UK, it's the ultimate luxury beauty experience and one-stop destination for all things beauty.

Liverpool ONE has been awarded Green Flag Status for its popular Chavasse Park. The prestigious Green Flag Award Scheme is judged by Keep Britain Tidy. Surrounded by a bustling and varied leisure terrace, the park plays host to many events for all the family throughout the year. Liverpool ONE is the only new city centre commercial development in the country to include a park that has Green Flag status.

Liverpool ONE won The Echo Environmental Business of the Year Award at the recent Liverpool Echo Environment Awards, rewarding and recognising the measures taken by Liverpool ONE ensure the retail and leisure destination is a clean, green sustainable environment for staff and visitors.

For more information on Liverpool ONE please visit: www.liverpool-one.com



Marketing Liverpool

Marketing Liverpool is the city's destination marketing organisation (DMO). We promote the city region as a global destination for visitors, conventions and investment.

As a division of Liverpool Vision we are responsible for communicating the city's brand positively and imaginatively to local, national and global audiences.

We work with our partners in business, cultural organisations, educational institutions and community groups to promote the city as a place to live, work, visit, invest and study.

Marketing Liverpool has an impressive track record in attracting major conferences and events, increasing the number of visitors and improving Liverpool's reputation as a leading UK business destination.

