2025 Award Criteria & Questions

Award for Best Heritage Development

Award Criteria

This award recognises innovation excellence in heritage related development or adaptive reuse projects. The award recognises outstanding conservation projects, adaptive reuse of existing buildings/sites or high-quality infill development within a historic context.

Eligible heritage projects must be listed on a local, state or national or world heritage register. Projects involving the renewal of historic precincts that are listed or contain listed buildings are also eligible.

Eligible entrants will be projects, developments or refurbishments that have been completed by 31 December 2023 (completed in the past 5 years) and have been operating for at least one year as at 31 December 2024 and have not previously won the award.

The award is open to members of the Property Council of Australia only. The nominator or owner of the entry must be the member.

By entering in this category your nomination is automatically considered for People’s Choice Voting, State Development of the Year and Australian Development of the Year.

A site tour will be requested for your nomination. This will either be in person or conducted virtually. Site tours will be arranged during May/June at judges’ availability.

Tips for a good & compelling submission

* Judges read a lot of submissions, think about what makes your submission stand out from the rest, and how best to present your submission accordingly.
* Less is more. Avoid fluff. Make every word count. Avoid repetition.
* Word count is NOT a reliable indicator of effort required – and you don’t need to go to the exact word limit!
* Dot points can be used when writing the submission.
* Innovation in your responses should be clearly expressed. Claims such as “Australian first” should be substantiated.
* Don’t repeat content across criteria questions (but you can cross reference)
* Provide good quality testimonials (not just project team), including pre-post statistics monitoring satisfaction.
* Please be clear in your submission. Any post-submission dialogue in relation to the nomination will solely be undertaken at the discretion of the judges’ panel.

Nomination Form Questions (final entries must be submitted using the online nomination form)

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| NOMINATOR / CONTACT PERSON |
| Company |  |
| Mailing Address |  |
| Contact Name  |  |
| Contact Number  |  |
| Contact Email |  |
| Property Council Member?Yes or No? Company name the membership is is under? |  |

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| OWNER DETAILS |
| Company |  |
| Mailing Address |  |
| Contact Name  |  |
| Contact Email |  |
| Contact Number |  |
| Property Council Member? Yes or No?Company name the membership is under? |  |

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| DEVELOPMENT DETAILS |
| Name of Development*This is the name your project/development will be listed and referred as* |  |
| Address of Development*(Street address & state)*  |  |
| Development type |  |
| Was your project, development or refurbishment completed prior to 31 December 2023? Yes or No? Provide the completion date. |  |
| Has your project, development or refurbishment been operating for at least one year as at 31 December 2024? Yes or No? Provide operational dates.  |  |
| Development size (NLA sqm) |  |
| Completion Date vs Initial Feasibility Forecast Completion Date | Completion Date - Initial Forecast Feasibility Completion Date - |

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| DEVELOPMENT DETAILS UPON COMPLETION |
| Valuation Upon Completion or Sale Price Upon Completion - $ *(Supported by an independent valuation)* |  |
| Total Project Costs - $ *Excluding interest but including loan establishment, site acquisition costs, planning costs, rates and taxes construction costs, professional fees, sales & marketing fees incl leasing incentives, +/- all holding period income & expenses)* |  |
| Development Profit - $ |  |
| Development Margin - %*(Development Profit/ Total Project Costs)*  |  |
| Project IRR - %*Unlevered Annualised Project IRR. (Annualised for periods greater than 12 months.)*   |  |
| Yield on Cost (%) |  |
| Cap Rate (%) |  |
| Total NLA Leased Upon Completion - %  |  |
| Average Gross, Net and Effective Rent ($/sqm) | Gross Rent ($/sqm) - Net Rent ($/sqm) -Effective Rent ($/sqm) - |
| Average Incentive (Net) (%) |  |
| Weighted Average Lease Expiry (yrs) |  |

\*Financials must be provided for the submission to be considered for the award. Financials are kept confidential and are not made public. Judges sign confidentiality agreements. The reason for the information is to ensure the project, development or refurbishment is financially viable.

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| PROJECT TEAM *(provide company name and contact email only)*  |
| Developer  |  |
| Architect |  |
| Planner |  |
| Quantity Surveyor |  |
| Builder |  |
| Consultants |  |
| Financier |  |
| Other |  |

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| PROJECT SYNOPSIS  |

To assist judges in assessing your entry against the judging criteria, please outline why you believe this project/development should win the award. Judges are looking for a maximum of five key dot points totalling no more than 300 words.

*The purpose of this to highlight why your project/development is worthy of winning this award.*

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| MARKETING SYNOPSIS  |

To assist the organiser in promoting your entry within marketing material, please provide a summary about your entry of no more than 50 words.

*(These words will be used to create your winner video if you are successful - video example* [*here*](https://innovationawards.propertycouncil.com.au/categories/award-for-best-heritage-development/)*)*

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| ATTACHMENTS |

**PROJECT IMAGES**

* Please upload a maximum of 6 images (minimum of 4 images is mandatory)
* Images are to be in a JPG or png format
* Images should be in landscape where possible
* Images should be of a high resolution
	+ Minimum image size 1920x1080 – ratio of 16:9
	+ Maximum file size of 10MB each image
* **Hero Image** – If you have an image you would prefer to be used as the main image to represent your nomination submission throughout the Awards Program, please label this as “Hero Image” before uploading. The Hero Image should be landscape if possible.
* **People’s choice Image** – This will be used as your hero image for the online People’s Choice Voting (Mandatory)

**OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

* Video links are optional and can be added **using the “Add link or Video” button** at the end of the page. They may be hosted on a video site such as YouTube or Vimeo. Ensure you provide any passwords if your videos are private to ensure our judges can view them.
* Should you wish to upload any supporting material for your submission, please upload as an attachment using the **“Add attachments”** button. Please note: The written component of your entry should be fully explained within the provided form fields, not relied upon within an attachment.

Judging Criteria

**APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY – 15% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Demonstrate how the project respected the heritage values; retained and enhanced the existing fabric and spaces and complied with conservation principles (e.g. Burra Charter).

**COMPLEXITY AND INNOVATION – 15% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Explain how the project overcame building or site conflicts, leveraged opportunities and applied

innovative solutions to deliver the overall project objectives.

**QUALITY OF OUTCOMES – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Briefly describe how the development delivered:

• Design quality;

• Integrity of retained building(s) and fabric;

• Usability of interiors;

• Adaptability and flexibility of services and facilities;

• Appropriateness for context.

**INTERPRETATION/LEGIBILITY OF HERITAGE VALUES – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Briefly explain the ways in which the development:

* Has the potential to help understand the heritage significance of the place and/or the work undertaken;
* Is innovative approaches to site interpretation;
* Reflects the quality of site interpretation, signage etc.
* Has received public support/community interest.

**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBLITY – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe how the development demonstrates tangible economic, environmental and social dividends.

**ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL FACTORS – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Explain the ways in which the development demonstrates the ability to produce financial outcomes

that met or exceeded the project’s planned objectives.

**USER SATISFACTION – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe, using testimonials from a variety of stakeholders, the extent to which the development

has a proven high satisfaction level of all users.

**INDUSTRY PERCEPTION – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Describe, using testimonials from a variety of stakeholders, the extent to which the development is considered a success by the property marketplace.

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE – 10% WEIGHTING** (Limit 300 words)

Provide a summary of results achieved, demonstrating the developments operational efficiency.

This should be described as a point of difference.

Conditions of Entry

* Entry in the Property Council of Australia/Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation & Excellence Awards costs $1,400 (including GST) per nomination.
* Nominated companies must be a Property Council of Australia member.
* We welcome both self-nomination and third party nominations.
* Before you submit your nomination, ensure you have permission from the owner, your client or your contractor to do so.
* All entries must be submitted via the online Nomination form.
* Entries must stick to the word limit on the online nomination form. Nominees are reminded that judges will not consider formatting or presentation of entries.
* Nominees must include 4-6 images to support their submission. Other material relevant to support the application may also be uploaded as an Appendix.
* All nominees should be prepared to attend a site inspection with a judge, should it be deemed necessary.
* All nominations and contents will remain the property of the Property Council of Australia.
* Please note entries are exclusive to the Property Council of Australia Innovation & Excellence Awards and no details private or professional will be distributed to outside contacts.
* The judge’s decision is final and no communication will be entered into concerning the final decision.
* The Property Council of Australia reserves the right to publish the results and winner details.
* The finalists should be available to attend the Property Council of Australia/Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation & Excellence Awards Gala Dinner to be held in Sydney at the ICC on Thursday 25 September 2025.
* All entries must be received and paid by 5:00 pm (AEDT) on Wednesday 12 March 2025.