



RetailNI

Standing up for
Independent Retailers

2024

HIGH STREET HEROES NI

Award Guidelines

#VoteIndependent

allwyn



Royal



BelfastLive

High Street Heroes 2024

Vote Independent! Celebrate Your Local Heroes!

Retail NI, in partnership with Allwyn, Belfast Live, Roam Local and SSE Airtricity, presents the High Street Heroes NI campaign – a unique opportunity to honour Northern Ireland's remarkable independent retailers and vibrant local high streets.

High Street Heroes is a truly unique initiative; there are no judges. The winners are decided solely by public online voting, putting the power in the hands of the customers themselves.

This year, we are thrilled to reintroduce the Independent Retail Employee of the Year award. This category recognises exceptional employees who go above and beyond in serving their communities. It is dedicated to celebrating the hardworking individuals behind the success of these businesses, not the owners.

Starting on Independence Day, July 4th, you can cast your vote online for your favourite independent retailer across 13 diverse categories. The High Street of the Year and Independent Retailer of the Year are our biggest and most popular categories, reflecting the immense impact these establishments have on our communities.

High Street Heroes NI is the largest-ever showcase of our world-class local independent retailers and the invaluable contributions they make to local communities and high streets.

Did you know that for every £1 spent at a local independent retailer, 70p is reinvested into the local economy? This supports local farmers, producers, manufacturers, and, most importantly, our communities.

Make your voice heard and vote for the independent retailers and high streets that have captured your heart and enriched your life.

For further information please contact joelene@retailni.com

Categories

Best Butcher

Sponsored by NIE

You can vote for in-store or stand-alone Butchers.

Best Coffee Shop

Sponsored by Deep River Rock

You can vote for in-store or stand-alone coffee shops.

Best Convenience Store

Sponsored by Bobby's Foods

Best Deli/Bakery

Sponsored by Gig Grafter

You can vote for in-store or stand-alone Delis/Bakeries.

Best Fashion Retailer

Sponsored by Roam Local

Best Forecourt

Sponsored by Ipower

This is for independently owned forecourts including all the main symbol groups.

Best Generalist Retailer

Sponsored by Johnston Shopfitting

You can vote for all other independent retailers not covered in an existing category e.g book shop, greengrocers, pet shops etc.

Independent Retail Employee of the Year

Sponsored by SSE Airtricity

Nominations are open from employers or consumers, but the nominee MUST be an employee. This award does not include owners

of the business, it is solely for employees of the business. The full name of the employee and the retailer they work for must be included.

Best Healthcare Retailer

Sponsored by Nicholl Oils

This includes Chemists, Opticians and other independently owned business that sell healthcare products.

Best Homeware Retailer

Sponsored by SONI

This includes independently owned kitchen, hardware or furniture retailer.

Best Off Licence

Sponsored by Britvic

You can vote for in-store or stand-alone off licences.

High Street of the Year

Sponsored by Allwyn

Open to entries from high streets in any local village, town or city in Northern Ireland.

Overall Independent Retailer

Sponsored by Biopax

Chosen from the list of winners who has polled the most votes.

How to vote

Go to www.belfastlive.co.uk/HSH

Enter as many or as few categories as you choose. Once you are happy with your entry click **submit**.

Award Sponsors





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