



**Business
Leader**
AWARDS 2020

Brought to you by Business Leader Magazine

TAKE YOUR BUSINESS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

**ENTER THE 2020
BUSINESS LEADER
AWARDS**

WHY ENTER

**Business
Leader**
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RECOGNISING AND CELEBRATING THE BEST OF SOUTH WEST BUSINESS

The South West is full of talented entrepreneurs and business leaders who are shaping the future - pioneers, innovators and visionaries who push boundaries, set new standards and overcome adversity.

The Business Leader Awards recognise those achievements, showcasing the region's best companies and the people who run them. It gives you the chance to tell your story to an audience of potential customers, peers and investors.

The awards are free to enter and open to all South West businesses, large and small, with the winners announced at a prestigious gala dinner, held at Ashton Gate on Thursday September 26 2019.

The South West Business Leader Awards are organised by Business Leader Magazine, the UK's leading B2B publication, ensuring finalists and winners enjoy unprecedented media coverage and kudos and the opportunity to be showcased on a regional and national stage.



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WHY ENTER THE AWARDS?

The South West Business Leader Awards are the region's premier celebration of business and industry. The event has become the most prestigious event in the South West and is open to small, medium and large companies and leading entrepreneurs.

- ▶ Raise your business profile on the national stage
- ▶ Amplify your brand and reputation
- ▶ Gain added credibility and trust
- ▶ Have national recognition for your achievements
- ▶ Boost staff morale and attract new talent
- ▶ Position your business as 'best in class'
- ▶ Win more customers and justify your pricing

AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT OF BUSINESS SUCCESS IN THE SOUTH WEST

Award winners will be unveiled at a glamorous gala dinner hosted at Ashton Gate on Thursday September 24 2020. The event is an exquisite evening attended by celebrities, VIP's and leaders from business, government and education. Celebrate with a champagne reception, 4 course gala dinner and entertainment with a celebrity host.

The glittering black-tie awards evening will give you the opportunity to mingle with the South West's top business leaders and entrepreneurs, high profile investors, deal-makers and the media.

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AWARD CATEGORIES

- ▶ Business in the Community
- ▶ Green Business of the Year
- ▶ Innovation & Technology Award
- ▶ Customer Excellence Award
- ▶ Export & International Award
- ▶ Employer of the Year
- ▶ Rising Star Award
- ▶ Entrepreneur of the Year
- ▶ Start-Up Business Award
- ▶ Manufacturing Business of the Year
- ▶ Family Business Award
- ▶ Corporate Deal of the Year
- ▶ Business of the Year (1-10 Employees)
- ▶ Business of the Year (11-50 Employees)
- ▶ Business of the Year (51+ Employees)
- ▶ Advisory Firm of the Year
- ▶ Business Leader of the Year
- ▶ Commercial Property Award

**FOR AWARD CRITERIA AND ENTRY,
VISIT WWW.BLAWARDS.CO.UK**

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AWARDS ENTRY GUIDELINES PLEASE READ

Please select the category you want to enter, read the entry criteria, and provide evidence/content that shows how your business or organisation demonstrates the criteria outlined in the bullet points.

You have up to 800 words (7000 characters) to demonstrate why you should win your chosen award. It is recommended that your entry uses all of the allocated word count.

Award entries close **May 15th 2020**. You can enter as many categories as you wish.

AWARDS ENTRY DO'S AND DON'TS

Entries that 'show' rather than 'tell' will stand a better chance of recognition and becoming shortlisted. Don't just say your business is the best but demonstrate why it is. Also, clearly outlined entries using bullet points and sub-headlines will be easier for judges to read and analyse.

Some awards will also require evidence of financial performance.

If you would like to send videos or any other supporting documents that you may not be able to attach, please send through to editor@businessleader.co.uk. Also, please note that when assessing your entry, the judge may want to call you to discuss elements of your entry or even visit your business. So, please provide your telephone number and full address.

There is no cost for entering the awards. However, if you are shortlisted as a finalist you will need to book seats at the event and it is a condition of entry that at least one representative of your company attends. If you are a finalist in more than one award, or have already booked places, you do not need to book additional places.

If you have any questions regarding entering the awards, please call one of the awards team on **0117 935 7779**.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AWARD ENTRY

The Business Leader Awards are owned and organised by Business Leader Limited.

1. The Business Leader Awards are owned and organised by Business Leader Limited.
2. Participation in the Business Leader Awards is only available via the online entry form at www.blawards.co.uk
3. We cannot be held responsible for entry applications that are not received.
4. Entries cannot be withdrawn or changed once submitted.
5. Entries received after **May 15th 2020** will not be accepted.
6. Sponsors may enter awards but cannot enter an award they are sponsoring.
7. Entry is open to every business, in all sectors, where principle operations are based in the UK and where individual category guidelines are met.
8. Entries may be made to any number of categories where appropriate and relevant.
9. Entrants may be asked for further evidence to validate an entry and failure to provide such evidence may render the application null-and-void.
10. The organisers cannot accept any responsibility whatsoever for the protection of rights to entrants' products/service. Entrants will be expected to protect those aspects of their business that may be patentable, registerable or otherwise secret and governed by intellectual property, copyright or similar legislation.
11. It is a condition that entrants must declare whether they, or the business they represent, are involved in (or could be involved in) any dispute or judgement that could in any way interfere with the proper conduct of the Business Leader Awards.
12. Entrants agree that Business Leader Ltd and judges may conduct such due diligence as is necessary to judge an entry, which may include a directors and/or financial check with a Credit Reference Agency.
13. All entrants must agree to publicity in respect to their entry both before and after the Business Leader Awards gala dinner.
14. Finalists will be selected for each category by the judges and the winner will be announced on the evening of **September 24th 2020**.
15. Awards are free to enter but those selected as finalists are required to attend the awards presentation and must purchase tickets. At least one representative of each finalist is required to attend the awards on **September 24th 2020** and be prepared to accept an Award if they win. You do not need to book additional tickets if you are a finalist in more than one category. Please note, failure to attend or book tickets may render your entry null and void.
16. The judges' decision is final and the organiser is not obliged to justify any decision or enter into correspondence.
17. The organiser reserves the right to withdraw or change award categories, change entry deadlines, or change the date of the awards gala dinner, venue or host.

18. Award winners and finalists may state in advertising/promotional activity and on their stationery that they are a winner or finalist, but this must include the category, the year in which the award was won, and 'Winner' or 'Finalist'.
19. The copyright of all materials assembled by the organiser will remain the property of the organiser and may be used for the purpose of publicising the awards.
20. By engaging in the process and attending the event entrants, including appointed representatives and guests, acknowledge that they may be photographed or filmed and agree that such photography or film/video may be used in promotional or branding activity including any comments or testimonials.

TICKETS AND GALA DINNER

21. Ticket bookings are only deemed valid once payment has been received.
22. No refunds are available, but guests may substitute another guest provided Business Leader Ltd is notified 48 hours before the event.
23. Business Leader Ltd reserves the right to refuse ticket sales or cancel a booking at any time. In such circumstances, a full refund will be made if payment has already been received.
24. Guests must be a minimum of 18 years old.
25. Dress code is formal black-tie. Guests who are not wearing suitable attire will be asked to leave.
26. If the event is cancelled, for example due to severe weather, potential threats to the venue or guests, technical problems at the venue or other reasons, Business Leader Ltd will at its sole discretion (1) reschedule the event for another date and your tickets will be valid for that date, or (2) if the event is not rescheduled ticket prices will be refunded.
27. A glass of champagne or soft drink is provided on arrival. Any further drinks should be ordered directly with the venue.
28. A fixed 3 course meal is provided to all guests. Special dietary requirements can ONLY be accommodated if advised in writing to Business Leader Ltd 14 days before the event.
29. The timings of the event are approximate and may run early or run late.
30. While Business Leader Ltd has booked the evening host in good faith, should the host be unavailable for any reason (for example due to travel delays, ill-health or any other reason), Business Leader Ltd will attempt to find a suitable replacement host but this cannot be guaranteed.
31. Guests who act in an unsociable, offensive or disruptive manner will be asked to leave immediately.