

# UK Diversity Gladiators Celebrated!

What an amazing night for organisations right across the country!

The National Centre for Diversity held its prestigious Annual Grand Awards event last night at the Queens Hotel in Leeds.

It was a glittering and emotional night of celebration, of the sheer hard work of people that work in the country's best companies in relation to Fairness, Respect, Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, and Engagement (FREDIE).

There were individual and organisational awards to mark the contributions of some of the most inspiring, passionate and brilliant individuals who work tirelessly every day, to ensure that there is equality of opportunity for all within their organisations— whatever your background.

During the evening the National Centre for Diversity announced its UK Top 100 Index 2017, highlighting 100 of the UK's best organisations.

Huddersfield New College came in at Number 1 having jumped a massive 54 places, from where they featured in the 2016 Top 100 Index.

Victim Support won Charity of the Year, they also jumped a massive 57 places, climbing from Number 68 in 2016 to Number 9 this year.

The much coveted Chief Executive of the Year title went to Pat Edwards, from London based organisation, NEWTEC.

Construction Company of the Year went to the construction giants, Interserve Construction.

Engineering heavyweights NG Bailey won this year's UK Engineering Company of the Year. NG Bailey came in at a very credit worthy Number 71 in the 2017 Top 100 Index, and also narrowly missed out on the UK Large Business of the Year award, which went to the huge success story that is Prospects Services.

Arriva Rail North won the prestigious UK Transportation Company of the Year award, having been the first transport company ever to achieve the highly-desired Leaders in Diversity accreditation. They also reached Number 91 in last night's Top 100 Index.

Huddersfield New College's Principal and CEO, Angela Williams was awarded the UK College Principal of the Year title; whilst her colleague Erika Montgomery won the UK EDI Lead of the Year award. Huddersfield New College also celebrated as they received the award for the UK's Organisation of the Year 2017.

Yorkshire Building Society's Nicola Hosty won "Special Achievement of the Year' Award.

Solat Chaudhry, Chief Executive of the National Centre for Diversity said *"Tonight's Grand Awards has been phenomenal. I'd like to offer a huge congratulations to not only the award winners, but those who were also shortlisted and nominated for one of our awards.*

*Beyond this year's Awards evening, we at the National Centre for Diversity know that there are fantastic people right across the country; working hard to make their organisations, wider communities and the UK in general a better and more equitable place for us all. We commend you all for your hard work, we know this is a journey that never stops, and we're here to support you all in that journey."*

The Top 100 Index is dictated by the results of the diagnostic surveys completed by those who have embarked on an accreditation journey with the National Centre for Diversity. The Top 100 Index is also used to determine the winners of the organisational awards presented during the Grand Awards evening, such as UK Transportation Organisation of the Year and UK Organisation of the Year.

The winners of the individual awards, such as UK Employee of the Year and UK College Principal of the Year, are decided by an independent panel of judges, selected from the nominations received by the National Centre of Diversity.

The Top 100 Index 2017 and full list of 2017 winners is available on the National Centre for Diversity website.

The National Centre for Diversity's next event will be the FE Sector Diversity Awards 2017, which will be held in Birmingham in November.

The full list of Grand Awards 2017 winners are as follows:

<b>2017 Awards</b>	<b>Winners</b>	<b>Contact Number</b>
UK Organisation of the Year	Huddersfield New College (Yorks)	01484 652 341
UK's Most Improved Organisation of the Year	Release Potential (NE)	01661 843 819
UK Chief Executive of the Year	Pat Edwards, NEWTEC (London)	020 8519 5843
UK Resources/ Procurement Manager of the Year	Jon Hull, Carillion (National)	01902 422 431
UK College Principal of the Year	Angela Williams, Huddersfield New College (Yorks)	01484 652 341
UK Employee of the Year	Tracy Andrews, John Ruskin College (London)	0208 6511131

UK EDI Lead of the Year	Erika Montgomery, Huddersfield New College (Yorks)	01484 652 341
UK's Most Inspiring Individual of the Year	Suzanne Doyle, University of Bristol Students` Union (SW)	0117 331 8680
UK's Most Innovative EDI Initiative of the Year	Happy to Translate Team, Trust Enterprises Ltd. (Scotland) – Rohini Sharma Joshi	0131 444 4950
UK's Steering Group of the Year	The Equality & Diversity Steering Group, Release Potential (NE)	01661 843 819
UK Large Business of the Year	Prospects Services (National) – CEO, Nick Bell	020 8315 1523
UK Construction Company of the Year	Interserve Construction (National) Julie Bradley	0118 932 0123
UK Engineering Company of the Year	NG Bailey (Yorks) David Hurcomb, CEO	01943 601 933
UK School or Academy of the Year	Oasis Academy Foundry (Birmingham W. Midlands), Emma Johnson, Head	0121 250 8850
UK Small to Medium Business of the Year	NEWTEC, (London), Pat Edwards, CEO	020 8519 5843
UK Charity of the Year	Victim Support (National) Mark Castle, CEO	02476 839 950
UK Student Union of the Year	Bath Spa University Students' Union (W. Midlands) Sarah Dawes, CEO	01225 876 264
UK Housing Provider of the Year	Yorkshire Coast Homes (Yorks) Shaun Tymon, CEO	0345 065 5656
UK Transportation Organisation of the Year	Arriva Rail North, Alex Hines, CEO	01904 568 554
Investors in Diversity Advisor of the Year	Jo Barton, National Centre for Diversity	0113 388 0145
Special Achievement Award	Nicola Hosty, Yorkshire Building Society (Yorks & National)	01274 263 017

<b>NCFD Top 100 Index 2017</b>	
<b>Position</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
1	Huddersfield New College
2	New College Durham
3	South Lanarkshire College
4	NEWTEC
5	Treloar Trust
6	The Henley College
7	Yorkshire Coast Homes Ltd
8	Hadlow College
9	Victim Support
10	Steps to Work
11	Cestria Community Housing Association
12	Barnsley College

13	Halesowen College
14	Bright Horizons Family Solutions
15	New College Pontefract
16	Ongo
17	Truro and Penwith College
18	North Star Housing Group
19	Boston Mayflower Ltd
20	Communication Specialist College Doncaster
21	Trust Housing Association
22	Luton Community Housing
23	Bury College
24	Newham College of Further Education
25	Red Rose Sports Club
26	Oasis Academy Foundry
27	Longley Park Sixth Form College
28	Bath Spa University Student`s Union
29	Heart of Worcestershire College
30	Aylesbury College
31	Milton Keynes College
32	Learning & Skills Gateshead
33	Interserve Construction
34	Brent Housing
35	Axiom Housing Association
36	Cardiff and Vale College
37	Woburn Lower School
38	Viewpoint Housing Association Ltd
39	Franklin College
40	Cruden Group
41	Carillion Fleet Management
42	Barnet and Southgate College
43	Pinchmill Lower School
44	Horton Housing
45	HMP Feltham
46	Equal Approach
47	Prospects Services
48	West Kent College & Ashford College
49	Link Group
50	South Cheshire College
51	The Sixth Form College Solihull
52	Release Potential
53	City Healthcare Partnership
54	Calderdale College

55	Oakwood Primary School
56	Linkage Community Trust
57	Guildford College
58	Carillion Strategic Highways
59	Swallowfield Lower School
60	Shears Hairdressing Academy
61	Orchard Hill College
62	One Vision Housing Ltd
63	Babcock Training Ltd
64	The RNN Group
65	Swanswell
66	Anglia Care Trust
67	Northumberland College
68	HCT Group - Learning Centre
69	Pobl Group
70	Central Training Group
71	NG Bailey
72	Women Centre
73	Bournemouth University Students` Union
74	University of Bristol Students' Union
75	Brighton, Hove and Sussex Sixth Form College
76	Dimensions
77	C&C
78	John Ruskin College
79	Biddenham International School
80	MHS Homes
81	Richmond Fellowship
82	Trident Housing Association
83	Vinci Construction UK
84	BARCA Leeds
85	Wellington School
86	The GEO Group Uk Ltd
87	Bradford Cyrenians
88	T2 Group
89	Mid Kent College
90	Seacroft Grange Primary
91	Arriva Rail North
92	Financial Ombudsman Service
93	Reading University Students' Union
94	Inclusion Housing
95	Community Action Dacorum
96	Catsurveys Group

97	PTS Ltd
98	Hanover Scotland
99	Ansbury
100	Leeds College of Art

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**Notes for Editors:**

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Background:

Back in 2005, the National Centre for Diversity was a grass roots movement created through the sheer will and determination of some of the most committed, passionate and knowledgeable people you could hope to meet. These people were leading experts in the field; people who brought their own personal experiences to the table. They had profound knowledge and understanding of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).