



Monday 19 June 2017

## Staffordshire Finalists Revealed

The response to the Staffordshire Chambers Business Awards has been overwhelming with hundreds of entries across the 13 categories. The quality of entries far surpassed last year's, resulting in a difficult task for the judging panel.

Several categories proved very popular, with over 50 entries for the Small Business of the Year (1-50 FTE's) category and over 30 entries for the Most Promising New Start - Up Business category. Entries were received from all areas of the County, including Burton, Cannock, Leek, Lichfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Rugeley, Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent and Tamworth.

Staffordshire Chambers Chief Executive, Sara Williams, said: "After launching the awards two years ago, it is great to see how the entries have developed and by far exceeded previous year's in terms of quality. We see this as a testimony to the healthy state and award-winning potential of businesses within Staffordshire. I would like to thank the judges for their dedication to the task and all of the businesses who took the time to enter. Many congratulations to all of our finalists and commended businesses."

The Steering Committee has now met to review all the entries with the objective of identifying a small number of shortlisted finalists for each category. This proved incredibly difficult, but after a full day of deliberation the finalists were identified and can now be announced (see below). In addition, a large number of entries were commended by the committee, and all of these will receive framed certificates.

All finalists will be visited by the judging panels, with the winners announced at a gala awards evening at the Staffordshire County Showground on Thursday 6 July 2017. Four hundred guests from across the county are anticipated, where they will enjoy a delicious three course meal and celebrate the achievements of the Staffordshire finalists.

### ***Finalists for the Staffordshire Chambers Business Awards 2017***

#### **Digital Award sponsored by Staffordshire University**

Capula Ltd

Enlighten

ExtraMile Communications Ltd

risual Ltd

**Employee of the Year sponsored by KMF Group**

Helen Staddon – risual Ltd  
Jane Oliver – Strategi Solutions Ltd  
Kayla Poole – Alice Charity  
Marie Bloor – Ruff & Ruby Youth Charity  
Michael Garrigan-Hindley – Moorland Contract Cleaning Ltd

**Employer of the Year sponsored by Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stafford Colleges Group**

Freeths LLP  
KMF Group  
Pure CF

**Environmental/Low Carbon Award sponsored by Keele University**

Smart Innovations Grid Ltd  
Stone Computers Ltd  
The Wool Packaging Company Ltd  
Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre

**International Trade Award sponsored by Department for International Trade**

Cobra Biologics  
Eurostar Global Electronics Ltd  
Simple Stuff Works Associates Ltd

**Manufacturer of the Year sponsored by Michelin**

Advertising Constructions Ltd  
Alpha Manufacturing  
Stairbox

**Small Business of the Year (1-50 FTE's) sponsored by Staffordshire Business Environment Network (SBEN)**

Caja Ltd  
Fleet Operations  
JHPS Gardens Ltd  
The Wool Packaging Company

**Medium / Large Business of the Year (> 50 FTE's) sponsored by Dains Accountants**

M&M Group  
PSR Solutions  
Red Industries Ltd  
Stairbox  
Wardell Armstrong LLP

**Most Promising New Start - Up Business sponsored by Grindeys Solicitors**

Enlighten  
ICanPlaySport  
True Grit Training  
Wealth Design Group Limited

**Professional Services of the Year sponsored by finest**

Caja Ltd  
Dukes Bailiffs Ltd  
Freeths LLP  
Mitten Clarke Ltd  
Prosurv Consult Limited

**Retail, Leisure & Tourism Award sponsored by Stoke-on-Trent City Council**

Best Western Tillington Hall Hotel  
Gladstone Pottery Museum  
Nelson's Gin Distillery and Gin School

**Science, Technology & Innovation Award sponsored by University of Wolverhampton**

JCB  
PD Components Ltd  
risual Ltd  
Synectics Solutions Ltd

**Young Employee or Apprentice of the Year sponsored by Skills Staffordshire**

Andrew Cash – Intatec Ltd  
Chloe Quaile – KMF Group  
Lauren Gee – risual  
Louise Meredith – JCB  
William Jones – Wade Ceramics

***Among the commended businesses were:***

**Digital Award**

Carse & Waterman Productions Ltd  
Stafford Town Centre Partnership

**Employee of the Year**

Georgios Christopoulos, CTC Healthcare Ltd  
Neil Harrison, Nelson's Gin Distillery and Gin School  
Tony Birchall, M&M Group

**Employer of the Year**

Brampton Recruitment  
Bri-Stor Systems Ltd

**International Trade Category**

Kloeckner Metals UK  
Tim Toft Violins Ltd

**Manufacturer of the Year**

Pure CF

**Medium / Large Business of the Year (> 50 FTE's) category**

Bri-Stor Systems Ltd  
Codeweavers Ltd  
eg solutions plc  
Pure CF

**Most Promising New Start up**

Nelson's Gin Distillery and Gin School  
odome LTD

**Professional Services of the Year**

Brampton Recruitment  
Chase Terrace Technology College  
Hobson Health Ltd  
PSR Solutions

**Retail, Leisure, Culture & Tourism Award**

Ruff & Ruby Youth Charity  
True Grit Training

**Science, Technology and Innovation**

Landpod  
odome LTD  
Wavemaker Stoke

**Small Business of the Year (1-50)**

8848 Communications Ltd  
amb insurance  
CTC Healthcare Ltd  
ELM Group  
Eurostar Global Electronics Ltd  
Howards Chartered Certified Accountants  
Nelson's Gin Distillery and Gin School  
Planned Office Interiors  
Prosurv Consult Limited  
Simple Stuff Works Associates Ltd  
Strategi Solutions Group Ltd  
The Underfloor Superstore Ltd  
The Unusual Furnishings Company  
Tile Mountain Ltd  
Tim Toft Violins Ltd

**Young Employee / Apprentice of the Year**

Eleanor Barnett, ICanPlaySport Ltd  
Ellie Chesterton, Ruff & Ruby Youth  
Gina Harper, Beeston Shenton  
Thomas Hughes, Wade Ceramics

**Ends**