A celebration of leadership talent, success and achievement
ACROSS the North West & Isle of Man, the IoD is building a strong community of business leaders, who have access to quality personal and professional development, can offer peer support at a senior level, influence policy that affects our businesses (be that local, regional or national) and who generally help make the region a great place to live and work.

Our annual Director of the Year Awards has grown over the past 16 years to represent the pinnacle of leadership and business excellence, highlighting the significant contribution business leaders can make to society and economic prosperity in our region.

Directors from diverse regional businesses such as Booths, N Brown Group, Graham & Brown, Ainscough Crane Hire, Seaseamark, Accrol Papers, Chester Zoo, Timpson, Alder Hey Children’s Hospital are just a few of the company directors that have been recognised at these prestigious awards.

By partnering with our awards, your company will receive all the brand awareness and accreditation of being associated with the IoD. You will forge new relationships with key business targets - entrants, finalists, winners, partners and the wider IoD membership. The event will also provide you and your team with an exceptional hospitality opportunity at the awards ceremony, taking place on Thursday 14 May 2020 at the Hilton Hotel, Deansgate.

Winners of the North West & Isle of Man Director of the Year Awards will be automatically entered into the national finals of the IoD Director of the Year Awards, providing these companies with additional exposure and profile on a national stage as the ‘best of the best’ in British business.
I am both delighted personally and professionally to be acknowledged by the Institute of Directors for this prestigious award. Vimto has been working internationally for over 93 years and it is wonderful for such an iconic brand to be recognized. I am very proud to led the organization and contributing to its continued success.”

Marnie Millard OBE
Nichols PLC
Director of the Year - International

“"It is an honour to receive an award from such a prestigious organisation as the IoD. I am absolutely passionate about ED&I and doing all that I can to help us overcome issues related to ED&I that sadly, still exist even in our modern society. To win the award for inclusivity is a fantastic feeling. Thank you.”

Debbie Francis
Managing Director,
Direct Rail Services Ltd

The Entry and Judging Process

This year’s entry and nomination process has been simplified to make it easier than ever to enter the 2020 Awards.

The judging criteria has been extensively reviewed and the judging panel will include a core team of experts made up of previous winners, along with individual sector specialists.

Opportunities are available for company representatives to join the judging panels for both headline and category sponsors.
Award categories

**Director of the Year**

**Innovation**
This award recognises leaders that have developed an innovative and transformational idea that displays creative thinking, that has beaten the competition plus has been developed and applied to improve commercial performance, operational effectiveness or customer engagement.

**Public Sector**
Open to directors who have implemented best practice that could be transformational in building a sustainable organisation. Directors whose business is a not-for-profit organisation, which can generate a surplus, but exists to serve the good of the community.

**Non-Exec**
This award recognises individuals that have made significant contribution to the organisation’s strategy, impacted on the financial success of the company, demonstrated high ethical standards and promoted the practice of good corporate governance.

**Third Sector**
This award is open to directors whose business is a charity or not-for-profit organisation, which can generate a surplus, but exists to serve the good of the community.

**Start-Up**
This award celebrates founders/co-founders of the UK’s most promising start-ups. Focusing on the market opportunity identified, the model to capitalise on it, and how it has been executed within the first three years of trading.

**International**
This award recognises international business leader with credible development plans in place to build on their company’s success. The leader’s business will operate across borders and could be in any industry sector, but although it is likely to be gaining market share due to strong international growth from a great product or service.

**Young**
This award recognises upcoming leaders who have operated at director level for less than two years yet have demonstrated excellent entrepreneurial potential, ability, ambition, creativity and vision in new or established businesses who have operated at director level for less than two years.

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"The North West is a fantastic place. There are lots of people of character, innovation and creativity being celebrated and recognised at the IoD North West Awards tonight."

Geoff Thompson, MBE FRSA DL
IoD North West Winner 2018
Award categories

**Director of the Year**

**Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**
This award recognises leaders who can demonstrate that they have specific initiatives already in place to promote diversity and inclusion.

**Director of the Year**

**Small to Medium Business (under 250 employees)**
This award is designed to celebrate those directors working in a business that employs under 250 employees and has an annual turnover of less than £50 million. Judges will look at how financial targets and KPIs have been met/exceeded, the vision for growth, innovation and the leader’s understanding of key challenges, customers and the competitive landscape.

**Director of the Year**

**Large Business (£50 million+)**
This award is designed to celebrate those directors working in a large business that has an annual turnover of more than £50 million. Judges will look at how financial targets and KPIs have been met/exceeded, the vision for growth, innovation and the leader’s understanding of key challenges, customers and the competitive landscape.

**Director of the Year**

**Social Value and Sustainability Impact**
This award is aimed at leaders who can demonstrate how they integrate the success and smooth running of their business with a strong sense of social responsibility and corporate values.

**Director of the Year**

**Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**
This award recognises leaders who can demonstrate that they have specific initiatives already in place to promote diversity and inclusion.

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**Chairman’s Award for Excellence in Director and Board Practice**
This award is the highest accolade in the Director of the Year Awards, recognising the personal imprint of the UK’s most high profile leaders on the culture and success of their organisation’s through outstanding professionalism and the implementation of best practice in governance and leadership.

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“*As a law firm proudly rooted in the North West, Kuits is delighted to be headline sponsor of the IoD North West Awards once again this year. The awards celebrate the best business talent our region has to offer and are therefore the ideal place to expand your network and develop long-lasting relationships with those influencing our region’s economic and social future.*

Sarah Glynn, MD, Marketing Manager, Kuits"
Sponsorship and packages

**HEADLINE PARTNER**

- Event to be named 'In partnership with…'
- 2 x table of 10 people at the North West & Isle of Man Awards
- 10% discount on tables/places for the UK finals ceremony
- Sponsorship of the Chairman’s Award for Excellence in Director and Board Practice category
- Judging to be hosted at Headline Partner’s offices
- Prominent seating within the Awards ceremony
- Two full pages in the Awards brochure
- Representative from your company to give a short two-minute on-stage welcome address
- Extensive branding across the Awards campaign and event (includes trophies)
- Branding included in marketing communications
- Your logo, website link and video/blog included on the event website
- Full set of photographs supplied for download after the Awards

£9,950 + VAT

**CATEGORY PARTNER**

- Naming rights to the award category which is most aligned with your core objectives
- 1 x table of 10 people at the Awards
- 10% discount on tables/places for the UK finals ceremony
- Representative from your company to be a judge for the chosen sponsored category
- One full page advertisement in the Awards brochure
- Representative from your company to hand out the category award on stage
- Extensive branding across the Awards campaign and event
- Branding included in marketing communications
- Your logo and website link on the event website

£3,750 + VAT
Sponsorship and packages: How it works

We work very closely with our partner’s marketing teams to ensure that brand guidelines are adhered to. Partner’s branding is included in all marketing and PR material including e-shots, newsletters, event invitations and event branding.

The Awards have a dedicated Marketing & PR team to work closely with our partners on the marketing plan and activation of the sponsorship.

In the run up to the Awards, our logistics team will work with our partners on their table plans, guest lists and will be on hand throughout the event.

We want to position our partners as thought leaders in their fields, therefore we ask for material and content to promote to our audiences throughout the year, this can be in the form of newsletters, white papers, webinars and TV/Radio pieces.

Partners are asked to provide a director-level representative to join the judging panel of their sponsored category. We understand that in some cases this can cause professional conflicts of interest, in which case we would move your judge to another category.
Get in touch

If you would like to get involved by sponsoring the IoD Director of the Year Awards 2020, then please contact one of the team below for more information:

Gary Williams | gary@wearemixgroup.com | 0161 946 6262
Claire Ebrey | claire.ebrey@iod.com | 0161 247 7693

For Isle of Man sponsorship enquiries please contact:
Rachel McKenna | rachel.mckenna@iod.com | 07624 355160

We understand that sponsors are an essential part of any successful event and we are very keen to create partnerships that provide real benefits to our sponsors, so if none of the packages achieve your aims and you have any other ideas then give us a call and we’ll be happy to chat.