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# 2018 UK Social Mobility awards to launch at upcoming event

#### Thursday 8 March, 2018

The 2018 <u>UK Social Mobility Awards</u> will be launched on Monday 19 March at an evening reception in Central London, where companies interested in entering the 2018 awards or who are developing social mobility initiatives are invited to attend.

The reception will be attended by the awards' judging panel Chair, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, Lord Lieutenant of London, as well as other leading figures from business and government. Guests will hear from last year's 'Organisation of the Year' winner, the Wates Group and case studies of the 2017 Awards winners, compiled by CSI Nuffield, will also be revealed at the event.

The UK Social Mobility Awards celebrate the forward-thinking organisations who are developing initiatives to promote social mobility, either within their own workforces, or by influencing the debate from beyond their own walls. By raising awareness and celebrating the people and organisations that are committed to bringing about change, these awards aim to advance the practical implementation of social mobility in this country. Entries are judged by a prestigious judging panel, made up of leading figures in business, charity, politics and the public sector.

The awards, which are sponsored by the RAF, PwC, BNP Paribas and Hedley May, received an impressive array of entries in its inaugural year, as well as support from the Prime Minister. This year, the awards expect to receive a greater number of entries from organisations who have demonstrated excellence in their social mobility initiatives, as more and more companies begin to focus to their efforts in this all-important arena.

Tunde Banjoko OBE, Founder of Making The Leap who have organised the awards, said:

"The awards have come full circle. We'll be publishing the inspiring stories of last year's winners and starting the process of encouraging organisations to think about what they are doing to advance social mobility, for this year's event. This is very exciting."

The mission of the UK Social Mobility Awards is to promote the issue of social mobility, and celebrate the businesses and organisations who are demonstrating excellence in this arena. This awards programme is for UK-based private sector, public sector and third sector organisations that have at least 20 employees. If you are interested in attending this event or learning more about the 2018 UK Social Mobility Awards with a view to entering, contact Making The Leap on 020 8962 1900

The UK Social Mobility Awards is organised by leading Social Mobility charity Making The Leap, who have supported over 57,000 young people from disadvantaged backgrounds over 24 years. For further information about Making The Leap visit <u>https://makingtheleap.org.uk</u>

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