

INSPIRE

Business Awards

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11pm Thursday 25th November 2021

WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT THE 2021 INSPIRE BUSINESS AWARD EVENING

The Inspire Business Awards Gala Dinner took place on Thursday evening when winners in 13 categories were announced. The Inspire Business Awards attracted entries from all types and sizes of business from across north Hampshire, and this year's formal ceremony was extra special after having to go virtual in 2020. Everyone was delighted to be able to gather again to celebrate achievements.

The evening included a reception, a 3 course dinner and entertainment, as well as the awards themselves, and guests could relax knowing that everyone had shown evidence of a negative lateral flow test before sitting down.

The culmination of the evening was the announcement of the Winner of Winners which was awarded to RazorSecure, a young tech company based in Basingstoke working on cyber security for the rail network, having won the Excellence in Digital Technology Award earlier in the evening.

“RazorSecure are a company that provides vital security to much of the country's rail network, their solution uses artificial intelligence. They have grown significantly in recent years and the prospect of them scaling even further is mouth-watering as they have few competitors”, said Bill Browne from LocalIQ, sponsors of the Digital Excellence Award.

“The judges all agreed that RazorSecure would be exceptional ambassadors for Inspire and an example of how Hampshire can be held up as a seedbed and pioneer of innovation in sectors and technologies, and deserving recipients of this overall winner award”, agreed John Biffen, Partner at Menzies and sponsor of the Winner of Winners Award.

The winners from all categories are:

- **Large Business of the Year** (Over £5 million turnover) sponsored by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Winner: **Reassured**
Runners Up: Phillips Solicitors, Centerprise International
- **Medium Business of the Year** (Turnover £501k to £5 million) – sponsored by Absolutely Offices
Winner: **Wildflower Turf**
Runners Up: Minitec, Jargon PR
- **Small Business of the Year** (Turnover up to £500k)– sponsored by Destination Basingstoke
Winner: **Safe Hands Book Keeping**
Runners Up: vivoHR, Apptaura
- **New Business of the Year** – sponsored by Hart District Council

Winner: **Swagpack**

Runners Up: The Lake House, The Palm Brassiere, Willows Coffee House

- **Business and Community** – sponsored by Face TV
Winner: **The Designlab**
Runners Up: Forces Re-engineered CIC, Spicy Tadka
- **Employer of the Year** – sponsored by Reality HR
Winner: **Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau**
Runners Up: Phillips Solicitors, Reassured
- **Innovation for Growth Award** – sponsored by RSM
Winner: **Centerprise International**
Runners Up : LG Motion, Petra Jewellery
- **Service Excellence Award** – sponsored by Morrisons Solicitors
Winner: **Dignity Pet Crematorium**
Runners Up: Basingstoke Academy of Dancing, Blucando
- **Young Business Person of the Year** – sponsored by Minuteman Press
Winner: **Laura Fisher – Laura Fisher Illustrations**
Runners Up: Nicola Ascroft – D & D Beauty, Victoria Wayman – Just Love Studio
- **Environmental Responsibility Award** – sponsored by Vitacress
Winner: **Disastercare**
Runners Up: The Salon at Old Basing, Triple O Packaging
- **Wellbeing at Work Award** – sponsored by Festival Place
Winner: **GDS Instruments**
Runners Up: DCSL Guidesmiths, iWaste
- **Excellence Digital Technology Award** – sponsored by Local IQ
Winner: **RazorSecure**
Runners Up: Cevitr, Festival Place

The evening was compered by Felicity Edwards from Destination Basingstoke, and Mark Jones, Head of Charity for the Hampshire Hospitals Charity, to which guests were invited to donate during the evening.

“I am delighted that all the guests at the Inspire Awards had the chance to hear about the Hampshire Hospitals Charity, and we are so grateful for their generous donations. This money will be used by the Charity to give support to our staff and their mental and physical wellbeing at a time when we all, perhaps, appreciate the importance of their roles in caring for us in our times of need”, said Alex Whitfield Chief Executive of Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust.

“There have been lots of challenges and uncertainty to overcome in bringing the awards evening together, but with the help of our sponsors, partners and suppliers we are delighted to be able to host the first large business event of its kind in region since the start of the pandemic. Our thanks

to the sponsors, the hotel, staff and all our suppliers as well as the businesses themselves for their support in making the evening a success", said Kathryn Nield Event Manager for at Destination Basingstoke that organised the awards programme on behalf of the business sponsors.

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The INSPIRE Business Awards cover the areas of Basingstoke and Deane, Hart, Rushmoor and Test Valley local authority areas of north Hampshire and have been organised on behalf of the sponsors by Destination Basingstoke for over 10 years. The Awards are funded entirely by sponsorship.

The INSPIRE Business Awards form part of Destination Basingstoke's strategy to deliver quality events and projects that showcase this area's assets.

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www.inspirebusinessawards.co.uk