

Frimley, UK  
17 December, 2015

### **The sky is the limit for businesses at the first Newcastle Business Awards**

*The last Thursday in November saw businesses from throughout Newcastle gather at the Skylight Conference Suite on Westgate Road for the inaugural Newcastle Business Awards. Siemens Power Generation Services were headline sponsor of the event which aimed to support small, medium and start-up businesses and recognise their achievements this year.*

With more than 300 attendees, companies such as Sage, Banks Group, CIPD and UKTI pledged their support through donations and sponsorships.

Community spirit is a big part of these awards, which were organised in conjunction with charities Groundwork and Centre West. Everyone was asked to bring a donation to the Newcastle Food Bank with them, resulting in a collection of over 500 items.

Fittingly, a theme of a soup can, was carried through the branding of the awards. Local artist Graeme Hopper designed and produced stunning trophies.

Graham Hartley, Managing Director of Siemens Power Generation Services, Power and Gas is also Chair of Groundwork UK. He said:

“Supporting events like this is incredibly important. Siemens itself started off as an engineering business run by two brothers and now has 348,000 employees globally. We have a responsibility to help and support these small, medium and start-up businesses to reach their full potential.

“This event had a strong community focus. As chair of Groundwork I see first-hand how important charities like this are to the local community. Even something as simple as a community coffee shop or a green space for people to enjoy, can make a big difference.

“We celebrated business in our region, which has recovered significantly after the economic recession. But we also recognised those pockets of society that aren’t prospering. It was a fantastic evening, that makes you incredibly proud to be working and living in Newcastle.”

#### **Winners of the Newcastle Business Awards 2015**

Green Business of the year - Urban Foresight

Small/ medium business of the year- Nosebleed Interactive  
Innovation award - Nice Guy Eddie  
Digital and Social Media business of the year - Andrew & Pete  
Social Enterprise of the year- Clean Slate  
Artisanal business of the year- North Chocolates  
Employer of the Year - Patchwork  
New Business of the year - Beacon House Events  
Apprentice of the year- Adam from GFW Letting

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