

MOVEMENT
TO WORK™



2026 Youth Employability Awards

Sponsorship opportunity



About the Movement

Movement to Work (MtW) helps employers deliver high-quality employability opportunities for young people aged 16–30 facing barriers to work. Together, we aim to create sustainable, inclusive and diverse workplaces fit for the future. We do this by rallying businesses and making powerful partnerships across the training, charitable and government sectors, inspiring leaders to help young people change their lives through positive encounters with the workplace.

A registered charity since 2013, the Movement to Work community has helped to deliver more than 225,000 opportunities, with some of the biggest employers in the UK helping us to drive social change. These include: Accenture, BAE Systems, Barclays, Centrica, the Department for Work and Pensions, Diageo, Marks and Spencer, Marriott, NHS, Salesforce, Spirax Group, Tesco and others.



The awards

The event will take place in H1 2026 and run from 6pm including networking time with informal food and drinks. Attendees will include a diverse range of leaders from HR, CSR, early careers, training and talent development, alongside C-suite executives from some of the biggest businesses in the UK and many young future leaders in the room too!

The awards are our biggest annual network-wide event and an opportunity to celebrate our collective successes and inspire as many people as possible to take action. It will be held at the glamorous 5* JW Marriott Grosvenor House London, and with the help of a celebrity host, we will be awarding prizes across nine categories this year (see full list on slide 7).

Ben Shephard

Awards host
2025



The opportunity

The Youth Employability Awards will bring together 350+ people from across private, public and third sectors, alongside young people, to celebrate our young workforce and those that are paving the way. We are looking for members of our community and beyond who will join us in making this a night to remember and to help support our ongoing work as a charity.



Why we do it

- **Celebrate...** the remarkable individuals and organisations across the network who have been particularly extraordinary, as well as taking time to reflect on all that has been achieved and why our work matters.
- **Demonstrate...** the power of quality employability programmes in driving positive outcomes for young people and for businesses looking to build a sustainable and diverse workforce.
- **Generate...** support and awareness of Movement to Work and our collaborative efforts in helping young people and creating a stronger and fairer labour market.



What you'll get

- Up to 10 (1 x VIP table) tickets to the award ceremony and post-event reception
- Branding on event promotional materials, slideshow, digital event program and mention in key speeches
- Recognition on our website and social media posts leading up to the event, and newsletter
- Invitation to present the award to the winners with logo on stage and photo opportunity
- Complimentary drinks and nibbles all evening
- Helping Movement to Work connect with more businesses, reach more young people and tackle youth employment head on.

- Professional photography for you and your team
- Guest post on Movement to Work news blog to be redeemed anytime before 2027
- Positive association and high exposure via a respected charity working with young people and influential leaders UK-wide

TOTAL CHARITY DONATION

- £5,000 per year

*Flexible payment options available for multiple year commitments



Awards to sponsor

Employer of the Year

An organisation affiliated with Movement to Work that has made a significant impact on young people, recognised for its commitment to driving positive change for those furthest from the job market. This organisation has effectively supported young people by providing meaningful pathways into the world of work.

Partner of the Year

A charity, youth engagement, or training partner that has made a real difference through partnership, targeted outreach, or support is recognised for significantly impacting young people's journey to work and helping employers deliver successful employability programmes.

Best Newcomer Employer

This award recognises employers who have recently become affiliated with Movement to Work, and have demonstrated a strong commitment to the organisation's aims and objectives.

Best Newcomer Partner

This award recognises partners who have recently become affiliated with Movement to Work, and have demonstrated a strong commitment to the organisation's aims and objectives.

Mentor of the Year

This award recognises an individual who has demonstrated exceptional dedication and passion as a mentor to young people. They have gone above and beyond in their commitment, showing genuine care, guidance, and support. Through their mentorship, they have not only empowered and inspired the next generation but also set an example that motivates peers to follow in their footsteps.

Breakthrough Star

This award recognises a young person who has recently completed a youth employability programme and shows great potential. This person may have been further removed from the workplace or had a difficult journey, and has shown remarkable improvement.

Rising Star

This award recognises a young person who has completed a youth employability programme and is now thriving in their early career. They have demonstrated exceptional personal and professional growth and are adding value in their workplace.

Young Trailblazer

This award recognises a young person, previously or currently NEET ('not in employment, education or training') who has overcome significant barriers to employment and thrived through the Movement to Work experience. They have shown exceptional resilience and perseverance, embracing the opportunities offered and making a positive impact in their workplace.

Outstanding Contribution to Young People

This award recognises an individual within the Movement to Work network who has been instrumental in supporting young people, either directly or through their organisation, over the years or significantly in the last year.



Young people need us now more than ever



- In February – April 2025 Youth unemployment rate rose to **14.3%**, up from **13.6%** the previous year. There were **625,000** unemployed young people (16-24 years old) up by **42,000** from the same time in 2024.
- The number of young people not in education, employment, or training (NEET) was **923,000** in January –March 2025.
- The headline figures for vacancies for Mar-May 2025 shows the UK has **736,000** vacancies – **down 59,000** (-7.4%) on Jan-Mar '20 (since Covid-19) which means there are more young people NEET than there are jobs.
- The number who are economically inactive (not in or looking for work) increased by **50,000** compared to the previous year, to **3.03 million**. This is close to the highest recorded level since records began in 1992.

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Get in touch

If you would like to sponsor an award, please contact a member of the team who will confirm further details. We can make a difference, together.

info@movementtowork.com

