

100 elitebusiness TOP SME **2026** BUSINESSES

Celebrating Britain's Top Performing SME Businesses

ADDITIONAL WINNERS AWARDS



Additional Awards for EB100 Finalists

Additional recognition and special awards are handed out at the celebratory awards evening including the EB100 trophy with the new winners engraved on the plaque, they get to look after the trophy for the year. Alongside the Number 1 Winners Trophy we have a selection of awards for exceptional performances throughout the year. These are shortlisted and the winners are announced on the evening.



EB100 Enterprise Lifetime Achievement Award 2026 Sponsored by ClearCourse

Eligibility: All finalists | Shortlisted

This award honours an exceptional individual whose career has made a lasting impact on UK enterprise. It recognises sustained entrepreneurial excellence, leadership, and influence, celebrating a lifetime of achievement that has driven innovation, inspired others, and strengthened the SME community through long-term commitment and vision.



TikTok Exceptional Business Performance of the Year Award

Eligibility: All finalists | Shortlisted



This Award represents an exceptional business performance, where an SME has scored highest from a growth prospective over the annual period. They've demonstrated that not only has the business model been able to show an exceptional business growth performance, but they've been able to facilitate and manage this growth within the company over the year across all eight criteria.



EB100 SME Business No.1 Winner Trophy

Eligibility: All finalists

This is the highest achievement of the Elite Business Top 100 SME Business Awards. Which is the Elite Business Top 100 SME Business No.1 Winner Trophy. The Judges have scored this business the highest across all eight criteria in the assessment process. Performing in pole position against the 100's of businesses that have entered the Award. Champions of the EB100 2026.



British Business Bank EB100 Start-Up Business of the Year Award



Shortlisted

This Award represents fast-track success at the highest level. Criteria includes that the business must have operated and been trading for a minimum of 18 month period, but not exceeded 3 years in their business journey.

This Award is for an emerging business that is performing to the highest standards and has demonstrated positive scores across all eight criteria.



Rising Star of the Year Award



Eligibility: All finalists | Shortlisted

Awarded to the business that has climbed the most places from the year before. The highest scored and represented 'Rising Star'.



Vistage SME Leadership of the Year Award



Shortlisted

This award celebrates exceptional leadership within the SME sector, recognising excellence across all eight criteria. The winner will have demonstrated innovative and impactful leadership strategies that set them apart from other entries. Their contributions will showcase a significant and lasting impact on the SME business community, exemplifying outstanding vision, influence and commitment to driving progress.



Innovation of the Year Award



Shortlisted

The SME business community always thrives from forward thinking companies that innovate with big ideas and this has been demonstrated within their winning submission. This includes industry leading new tech and innovative new processes within the business that has been implemented and shown impressive results over the annual period.



Alight Media Diversity & Inclusion of the Year Award



Shortlisted

This award is for a charity, contribution and community hero. Showcasing an outstanding devotion to enhancing equality, diversity and inclusion, which has been clearly identified significantly in the submission presented.



Market Location Highest New Entry of the Year Award



Eligibility: All finalists

Awarded to the business that has never entered the EB100 Awards previously and has ranked in at the highest entry of all new entries to the Awards.



Sustainability of the Year Award

Shortlisted

This award celebrates the achievement in environmental and social responsibility. The winner has demonstrated commercial excellence and success in a commitment to improve environmental and social issues. Ranging from energy efficiency, leading initiatives in climate change, environmental and social best practice.



Money Penny Customer Service of the Year Award



Shortlisted

Celebrating organisations that demonstrate exceptional dedication to customer service excellence, this award recognises businesses and teams that consistently go above and beyond to deliver seamless, innovative, and customer-centric experiences. The winner has successfully leveraged cutting-edge tools and technology while achieving measurable impact in customer satisfaction and loyalty.



Sage People's Choice of the Year Award



Shortlisted

Introducing the Sage People's Choice of the Year Award a new addition to the EB100.

This award is decided by the public and celebrates the brand that resonates most strongly with the people it serves. It recognises organisations that build meaningful connections with their communities, support and empower their people, embrace innovation, and demonstrate a clear vision for the future.

