

*Press Release: For immediate release*

## **French Chamber launches 2021 Franco-British Business Awards to recognise excellence in an exceptional year**

The Franco-British Business Awards will return for a 22<sup>nd</sup> year to honour the outstanding contributions of French and British companies of all sizes and across all sectors, on both sides of the Channel.

This year, there are five categories including four new award categories to acknowledge the circumstances of the past twelve months and reflect the priorities of the Chamber and wider community. The awards will celebrate the ambition, tenacity, and commitment to innovation that the Franco-British business community has shown in response to the unprecedented challenges of the year. They will honour the companies that, despite these exceptional circumstances, have gone above and beyond to support their people and communities, to tackle the climate crisis and to nurture the Franco-British relationship.

Marilise Saghbini, Managing Director of the French Chamber of Commerce added: “As we look ahead to a post-pandemic world and businesses adapt to a new normal, the Chamber wanted to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary lengths that businesses have gone to over the past year to take care of their people, to contribute to their communities, to keep moving towards a goal of Net Zero and to drive forwards Franco-British relations despite the challenges they have faced.”

The window for applications will open on 17 June 2021 and close on 20 September 2021. The award ceremony will be held on 4 November 2021 November in London.

**ENDS**

## About the Awards:

The awards have been running since 2000, with previous winners including Decathlon, L’Oreal, Dassault Systemes and Barjane. The Franco-British Business Awards accept applications from both French and British companies operating in the UK. Companies of all sizes and all sectors are encouraged to apply. Membership at the French Chamber of Great Britain is not a prerequisite.



The Community Impact Award, sponsored by [Dassault Systemes](#), will recognise a company which has put in place support for local or national communities. Its work must have had a significant, meaningful and sustainable impact on the community it supports, addressing social challenges, including in response to the extraordinary challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.



The Franco-British Collaboration award will recognise an initiative which has seen a French and a British business collaborating to deliver a significant project. In the aftermath of Brexit, this award will celebrate an initiative that contributes to maintaining a close relationship and continuing the collaboration between France and the UK.



The Net Zero Champion Award will recognise an organisation that is going above and beyond to champion carbon neutrality. The organisation must be able to demonstrate it has put in place a tangible, significant and verifiable transformation plan to achieve Net Zero.



The Tech Launch Award, sponsored by [Browne Jacobson](#) and in partnership with [La French Tech London](#), will recognise a young business (incorporated in or after 2017) in the tech sector. The organisation will be recognised for its outstanding technological achievements, and for its ability to harness these thanks to a compelling vision and a sound financial and commercial strategy.



The Wellbeing in Crisis Award will recognise an organisation which has put in place an initiative to support its people’s mental health and/or wellbeing during the pandemic. The organisation must be able to demonstrate that it has effectively and actively looked after its people and promoted practices that prioritise improved mental health and/or wellbeing throughout Covid-19.

## About the French Chamber:

The French Chamber of Great Britain was established in 1883 and is one of the most active business networks in the UK. With over 400 companies of all sizes and sectors in its membership, it is the hub of key relationships, conversations, insights and support for Franco-British business.

## For media enquiries:

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