

# North East Accountancy Awards 2017

Nigel Wright has been the main sponsor of the North East Accountancy Awards for many years and the 2017 awards were another great success. The Awards recognise some of the finest finance professionals and their companies in the region.

The eleventh annual North East Accountancy Awards in 2017 saw hundreds of accountants, other finance professionals and their colleagues gather at the NewcastleGateshead Hilton hotel to celebrate the achievements of the region's top financial businesses and individuals. The event was hosted by ex-Olympian, TV presenter, Steve Cram.

Among the winners was Christopher Vaulks from KPMG who picked up the title of Accountant of the Year and Performance Horizon's Chris Blaxall who was named Finance Director of the Year.

## The winners:

**Accounting Technician of the Year**  
**Ashlee Richardson, Welwyn Components**

**Rising Star Accountant of the Year**  
**Katharine Lowdon, EY**

**Rising Star Tax Adviser of the Year**  
**Mo Malhotra, Deloitte**

**Accountant of the Year**  
**Christopher Vaulks, KPMG**

**Finance Director of the Year**  
**Chris Blaxall, Performance Horizon**

**Business Finance Team of the Year**  
**Mayborn Group**

**Public Services Finance Team of the Year**  
**Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums**

**Tax Team of the Year**  
**KPMG, Innovation reliefs & incentives team**

**Corporate Finance Deal of the Year**  
**KPMG – Investment in Zyro by LDC and simultaneous acquisition of Fisher Outdoor Leisure**

**New Firm of the Year**  
**BW Medical Accountants**

**Independent Accountancy Firm of the Year**  
**Blu Sky Tax**

**National Accountancy Firm of the Year**  
**KPMG**

**Outstanding Achievement**  
**Iain Wright**

**John Wall Award for Outstanding Achievement:**  
**Paul Woods**

**Non-Executive Director of the Year:**  
**Christopher Fleetwood, NCFE**

Nigel Wright's Richard Morgan said: "This was another great Accountancy Awards event showcasing the very best in the region's finance, accounting and tax professionals, working across a variety of organisations and sectors. Judging was tough due to the high standard of nominations in all categories, and we expect it to be equally as competitive next year."

