

ADVERTORIAL: United Utilities is a standard bearer for diversity and inclusion

When it comes to championing unique skills and talents in the workplace, [United Utilities](#) certainly sets the standard. In fact, dedication to diversity and inclusion has seen the North West-based water company receive national and international recognition.

The country's largest listed water company – providing water and wastewater services to more than seven million people across the North West – was ranked seventh in the Inclusive Top 50 UK Employers List 2021/22 and joined the 2022 Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI).

Its health, safety, wellbeing and estate services director, Paula Steer, was also included in the prestigious 2022 Northern Power Women power list which recognises influential trailblazers from across the region.

So its small wonder that [United Utilities](#) – which has pumped billions into upgrading services to customers and counts upwards of 5,000 staff members (and 17,500 jobs supported through its supply chain) – is such a proud sponsor of the Diversity and Inclusion category at the [Echo Regional Business Awards 2022](#). The awards are set to be staged on Thursday, May 26, at the Rum Warehouse, Titanic Hotel, Liverpool.

“United Utilities is excited to be category sponsor at this year's awards,” said area stakeholder manager at United Utilities, Steven Wong.

“We celebrate diversity of thought, colour and creed. It's widely recognised that a diverse company – one that is representative of its customer base – is a successful one. It

also makes for a great place to work.



United Utilities celebrates diversity of thought, colour and creed

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“Employees can see and hear from people and cultures they are familiar with, but also from those they aren’t. What better way to help people open their minds to the lived experiences of others, and in turn, create more compassion and understanding.

“We’re proud to be an inclusive organisation, whatever your background, beliefs, gender or sexual orientation, because at

United Utilities our strengths lie in our uniqueness and not our similarities. Last week we hosted our first diversity and inclusion conference in Manchester to bring together other North West organisations with key speakers to help embed D&I in not only our business but across the region.

“We offer a number of standalone network community groups to provide help and comradeship to like-minded employees who share a common experience and they play a major role in helping us to drive our diversity and inclusion agenda forward.”

Other initiatives include:

- **Ability Employee Network:** Supports employees who live with a disability or long-term health condition.
- **GENEq Employee Network:** Supports, mentors, develops, inspires and promotes everyone in the company, fostering a culture of gender equality. Whilst respecting diversity the aim is to challenge cultural norms and gender stereotypes and confront discrimination wherever it is seen.
- **Multicultural Employee Network:** Recognises and celebrates the myriad different faiths, cultures, religions, ethnicities, and traditions among the workforce.
- **LGBT+ Together Employee Network:** Supports LGBT+ employees and aims to help create a safe, inclusive and diverse working environment for the LGBT+ community and one that encourages respect, equality and acceptance of all.
- **Armed Forces Network:** Promotes the pledges of the Armed Forces' Covenant within the company and supports the Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Gold Award by creating a forces-friendly environment.
- **To find out more about United Utilities [CLICK HERE](#)**



All you need to know about the Echo Regional Business Awards 2022

Entries are being invited from companies based across the Liverpool City Region for this year's Regional Business Awards. The awards have been running for more than 25 years and have honoured some of the biggest names in the city's business world.

The Liverpool ECHO and sister site BusinessLive launched the awards last month and are on the look out for nominations. The awards are set to be staged on Thursday, May 26, at the Rum Warehouse, Titanic Hotel, Liverpool.

"United Utilities is excited to be category sponsor at this year's awards," said area stakeholder manager at United Utilities, Steven Wong.

- The closing date for nominations is Friday, April 22,

and [details of how to enter can be found here.](#)