

HIGHLIGHT

Our people of influence

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You've heard a lot about why we're so keen to promote diversity so it's particularly good timing for us share with you that two of our own have been named in the Power List of Britain's 100 Most Influential Black People.

[Leila Thomas](#), I&S Project Manager for our Markets division, has been named as one of Britain's "Young, Gifted and On Track", thanks to her work with Urban Synergy Community Interest Company. And non-executive director (NED) [Ken Olisa](#) was named as the 5th most influential in the U.K.

Congratulations to Leila and Ken who are both deserving winners.

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Two years ago Leila set up Urban Synergy – a mentoring resource pool for young people in London. It has since helped hundreds of children find mentors in all areas of business and she runs the organization outside of her working hours with other like-minded professionals. Leila also sits on the panel of TReuBEN, the Thomson Reuters Black Employee Network and Urban Synergy was recently selected as finalist in the [UK's Precious Awards](#).

The publisher of Power List said Leila's "determination and innovative ideas strongly indicate this is just the beginning of an impressive journey."

Not only is Ken proud to be our NED, he is proud to be a pioneer. Ken became the first black businessman to join a FTSE100 board when he became a Director of Reuters in 2004. His day job is as head of the boutique technology merchant bank Restoration Partners and he is also very active in pro bono work. He is chairman of Thames Reach, a charity that is part of an initiative to end street homelessness in London by 2012 and is also a Trustee of the BCS – the Chartered Institute for IT. And interestingly he is the only man on the UK Government's Women's Enterprise Taskforce.

It's the second year he has been named in the top ten of the Power List.

General Counsel [Deirdre Stanley](#) and Financial Solutions Specialist [Olakunle Babarinde](#), who is chair of TReuBEN UK, joined award winners at an event hosted by U.K. Prime Minister Gordon Brown in London's Downing Street.

Thomson Reuters is media sponsor of the 2010 Power List.

If you have a question on this story, please contact the [Internal Communications team](#).

[Devin Wenig](#), CEO of our Markets division, wrote the foreword to the Power List 2010 and spoke of the importance we as a business place on diversity.

"We believe that the best decisions are made by teams that approach challenges and opportunities with differing perspectives and experiences," he said.

"I am extremely proud of the global nature of our business and I know that, today, we are one of the most diverse organizations in the world."