

# PRESS RELEASE

## Sodexo in The Times Top 50 Employers for Women fifth straight year

25 April 2018

**Sodexo, the world's largest services company, has been recognised for its leadership in gender equality by being named in The Times Top 50 Employers for Women 2018.**

The Times Top 50 Employers for Women is published in partnership with Business in the Community, the Prince's Responsible Business Network, as part of the charity's Responsible Business Week.

The alphabetical and unranked list celebrates UK employers building gender equality into their business strategy and have committed to creating inclusive workplace cultures and women's progression at work. The listing involves a comprehensive submission process managed by the gender equality campaign of Business in the Community.

Gender is a key pillar of Sodexo's sustainability roadmap Better Tomorrow 2025, under which Sodexo has aspirational targets to reach 40% women among Sodexo's top senior leaders by 2025.

This target is in keeping with Sodexo's own global gender balance business case research published last month, which demonstrates better performance in terms of profit, employee engagement, health & safety and client retention where management teams had a 40-60 per cent gender split in either direction.

Sodexo initially published its UK gender pay gap against Office of National Statistics methodology in November 2016, as part of an existing commitment to transparency.

In October 2017, Sodexo published its gender pay data in line with UK government regulations six months before the deadline. Transparency is a key principle of the new Sodexo Public Service Pledge published last week.

In the UK and Ireland, gender is one of six workstreams to make up Sodexo's diversity and inclusion strategy, alongside generation, cultures and origins, sexual orientation and gender identity, disability and inclusion.

**Sean Haley, regional chair, Sodexo UK & Ireland, said:** *"We're incredibly pleased our commitment to gender balance continues to be recognised by our inclusion in The Times Top 50 Employers for Women, but there is still plenty of work to do if we're to reduce the gender pay gap."*

*“New research published by Sodexo last month shows our management teams that are gender balanced perform better than those that are not, so our commitment to gender diversity is not only the right thing to do, it’s good for business too.”*

**Chloe Chambraud, gender equality director, Business in the Community, said:** *“Well done to Sodexo on being named in The Times Top 50 Employers for Women 2018 – the process was highly competitive so they should be very proud of their success. Their efforts are enabling women and men to contribute equally to society, and I hope other organisations will learn from their example.”*

The full list of The Times Top 50 Employers for Women 2018 can be found online at <http://gender.bitc.org.uk>.

**Ends**