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# BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

April 2026 EDITION

[smartsecsolutions.com](http://smartsecsolutions.com)

# Welcome from the Managing Director

**I hope you are all well. It is a real pleasure to write to you once again in our April 2026 edition of the Colleague Newsletter.**

I would like to begin by congratulating the winners of the SmartSec Annual Awards, held last November. As our business continues to grow and we welcome new colleagues, the competition becomes more impressive every year. A huge well done to all our finalists as well. These awards, together with our company Christmas party, were among the highlights of my year. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many of you and look forward to our next celebration.

I am incredibly proud to share that SmartSec Solutions was awarded Guarding Company of the Year at the Security & Fire Excellence Awards in December. This achievement is a true testament to the consistently high standards of service you each deliver day in, day out, and I thank you all for your continued commitment and professionalism.

In January 2026, we commenced mobilising our new technology solution, MyTAG. MyTAG, a Kinexio product, includes an electronic daily occurrence log, task and patrol management, asset management and post room management. This technology will be rolled out across all SmartSec sites as part of our standard offering, helping us evidence the value we add to our clients while moving further towards a paperless operation.

At the start of 2026, we expanded our services with BNP Paribas Real Estate by securing a flagship portfolio of buildings under their Nuveen portfolio. This includes prominent locations such as 70 St Mary Axe, Devonshire Square and Belgrave House. In addition, during the first quarter of 2026, we successfully retained our West End and City portfolio with BNP Paribas Real Estate and added further sites within the City of London. We also secured additional business with our valued clients, Workspace and Promise FM.



2026 has already proved to be an exciting year as we expanded into new sectors, including public realm and education. In February 2026, we commenced our contract with Coventry University, further strengthening our reputation within the education sector.

To support our growth, the SmartSec Operations team has expanded. I am pleased to welcome Ali Aslam Khan, who joined us through our graduate programme and is gradually expanding both his portfolio and the number of sites he oversees. Please join me in welcoming Ali and wishing him every success in his new role.

SmartSec Solutions continues to play an active role within the City Security Council. In January 2026, I was honoured to take up the position of Chairman for London, while our Head of Strategy & Major Accounts joined the Council's People Board. Through this involvement, SmartSec contributes to the wider London private security industry, including leading initiatives such as the upcoming City Security Council Frontline Awards and Hi-Visibility Days.



Over recent months, we have also shared a series of videos on LinkedIn featuring our colleagues speaking about why they chose security as a career. These videos play an important role in promoting the private security industry as a career of choice. If you do not already follow us on LinkedIn, I encourage you to do so to stay up to date with what SmartSec is doing.

Our Operations Director, Dele Ogunlaru, has been working closely with employment workshops to support individuals in returning to employment. This has been a huge success, with six people joining SmartSec since our last newsletter. Well, done to Dele and everyone involved.

For 2026, SmartSec Solutions has partnered with two charities: Stamp Out Spiking and Haven House Children's Hospice.

Stamp Out Spiking plays a vital role in raising awareness of spiking and delivering practical solutions to help keep people safe in social environments.

Haven House Children's Hospice provides specialist care and support to babies, children and young people with life-limiting conditions, alongside vital support for their families.

Finally, I am delighted to share that SmartSec Solutions has been shortlisted as a finalist for ESG Company of the Year and Guarding Company of the Year at the Fire & Security Matters Awards 2026, to be held in July. This recognition reflects the hard work, values and dedication of everyone across the business.

I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter. I look forward to writing to you again in six months' time. Until then, thank you for everything you do, and I wish you all the very best.

All the best,

*Helmy El-Aasar*



# Welcome Onboard

Ali Aslam Khan has joined our Operations team through our graduate programme and is already making strong progress in his role. Since coming on board, he has been steadily expanding both his portfolio and the number of sites he oversees, gaining valuable hands-on experience across a range of operational environments.

As he continues to develop his knowledge and capabilities, Ali is building a solid understanding of service delivery, client engagement, and day-to-day site management. His growth reflects the strength of our graduate programme, which is designed to nurture emerging talent and support individuals in building successful careers within the business. We look forward to supporting Ali as he continues to grow and take on new challenges within the Operations team.



# The Security & Fire Awards for Excellence

We're incredibly proud to share that **SmartSec Solutions** won Security Guarding Company of the Year (Turnover under £35M) at **The Security & Fire Awards for Excellence**.

This achievement belongs to our fantastic team. Every colleague, on every site, every day, plays a part in making SmartSec the company it is.

All of you made this possible. Thank you.

A huge thank you to the organisers for hosting such a fantastic event and for recognising excellence across our industry. It was an honour to be among so many inspiring organisations. Here's to continued growth, continued excellence, and continued teamwork.

Well done, SmartSec Team, you made this happen.





# SmartSec Christmas party 2025



# SmartSec Annual Awards 2025



**Best Newcomer**  
**Stephen Owiredu JR.**



**All Day Everyday**  
**Michael Feather**



**All Day Everyday**  
**Chinedu Ileke**



**Employee of the Year**  
**Wayne Miles**



**Chairman's Award**  
**Cristina Bucule**



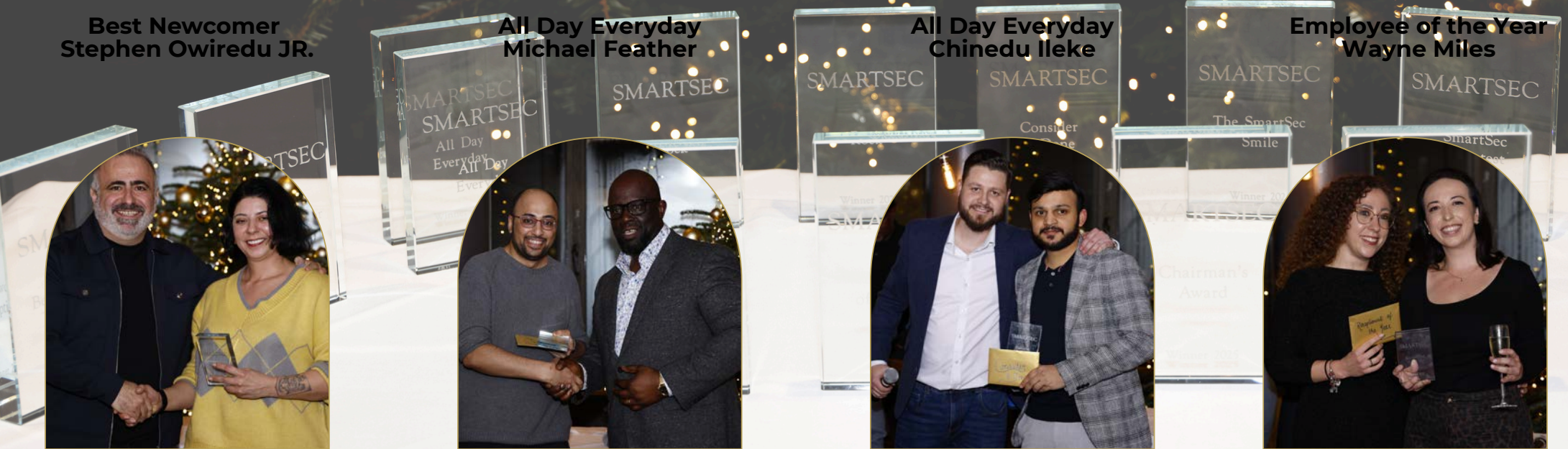
**The SmartSec Smile**  
**Rezwan Malik**



**Consider It Done**  
**Mughees Ahmad**



**Receptionist of the Year**  
**Sabrina Apolinaro**



# SmartSec Annual Awards 2025



**Manager of the Year  
Abdal Jimale**



**Team of the Year  
Lewisham Council**



**SmartSec Rock  
Simona & Rosario**

**A huge congratulations to all of our award winners and to everyone who was nominated. Your effort and commitment do not go unnoticed.**

**Thank you to everyone who joined us and made the night such a great celebration.**

**To our entire SmartSec team, thank you for the passion, teamwork, and professionalism you bring every day. We are proud of what we are building together and excited for what is ahead.**

# Nuveen portfolio Mobilisation

BNP Paribas Real Estate and SmartSec Solutions are pleased to announce the expansion of their strategic partnership, marking a significant milestone in their ongoing collaboration.

From January 2026, SmartSec Solutions has been appointed as the security services provider across a key portfolio of flagship assets managed by BNP Paribas Real Estate. This includes prominent sites such as 70 St Mary Axe, Belgrave House, Devonshire Square, and Sutton Yard.

This expanded partnership reflects the trust and confidence BNP Paribas Real Estate places in SmartSec Solutions' ability to deliver high-quality, reliable, and innovative security services across complex, high-profile environments. By combining industry expertise with a proactive and customer-focused approach, both organisations aim to enhance the overall experience for occupiers, visitors, and stakeholders.



# Crime Prevention Day

We were delighted to see our Operations Director, Dele Ogunlaru representing SmartSec Solutions at the City of London Police Crime Prevention Day held at Twenty Old Bailey.



Facilitated by Justyna Nunn, Senior Building Manager at Helix, and organised by Darren Canty, Security Manager, the event brought together tenants, security professionals, and the City of London Police for an engaging and insightful day focused on safety and prevention.

Dele attended to support the event, strengthen relationships, and develop contacts to help bring similar Crime Prevention Awareness CPA days to other locations.

There was strong tenant involvement throughout the day, with highlights including:

- Informative crime prevention videos
- Practical advice, guidance, and updates from the police
- Positive discussions on how everyone can contribute to creating safer environments

Events like these are an important reminder that safety is a shared responsibility. Staying informed and proactive helps protect colleagues, families, workplaces, and the wider community.





# Valentine's Day

For Valentine's Day, our teams went above and beyond to create memorable moments for clients, tenants, and visitors. From fun photo props to thoughtful treats, their energy and creativity made the day extra special.

It's amazing to see Concierge, Reception, and Security teams coming together to make every interaction warm, welcoming, and personal.

# Service Excellence Training

David Taylor, our Head of Strategy, delivered an engaging Service Excellence training session for our teams. It was great to see such high levels of participation, enthusiasm, and genuine engagement throughout.



Through the SmartSec Solutions Training Academy, we remain committed to developing our colleagues' skills, strengthening their confidence, and empowering them to deliver an exceptional experience for every client. Sessions like this play a vital role in fostering a culture of continuous improvement and professional growth.

The training sparked insightful discussions, encouraged curiosity, and generated a wealth of innovative ideas that will help us further enhance our service delivery. A big thank you and well done to everyone who took part and contributed so positively.



# Stamp Out Spiking

We are proud to announce that SmartSec Solutions is now an official member of Stamp Out Spiking, a registered charity dedicated to tackling the growing issue of spiking across the UK and worldwide.



SmartSec Solutions is proud to take practical action to raise awareness of spiking in Central London, in partnership with Stamp Out Spiking.

Our frontline teams operating across public realm locations are now equipped with drink seals to hand out to members of the public. These simple but effective seals help protect drinks from interference while people enjoy their time in the City.

If a drink is tampered with, the seal will clearly break, providing a visible indication that the drink may have been compromised. It's a small measure that can make a meaningful difference in helping people stay safe and alert during nights out and social events.

A big thank you to StopTopps for supplying the drink tops that support this initiative. The drink tops are also accredited by Secured by Design, the official police security initiative focused on improving the security of buildings and public spaces to create safer places to live, work, shop and visit.



# Employment Workshop

Our Operations Director, Dele Ogunlaru, led an Employment Workshop for individuals exploring careers in the security industry. The session covered customer expectations, career pathways, professional development, and what makes our team proud to work here.

One attendee shared their feedback just 30 minutes after the session:

"It was great meeting Dele, who delivered a very engaging and insightful presentation. I am highly interested in joining your team and determined to meet your standards of courage, dedication, and commitment."

Feedback like this is exactly why these sessions are so rewarding. The workshop was a success, and we have been invited to run these sessions every six weeks. We're excited to continue inspiring and supporting the next generation of security professionals.



# Haven House

Our Managing Director, Helmey El-Aasar, and Operations Director, Dele Ogunlaru, were honoured to represent SmartSec Solutions at the Haven House Ball, reinforcing our ongoing commitment to supporting this remarkable charity and the incredible work it does for children and families.

Haven House Children's Hospice provides specialist, compassionate care for seriously ill babies, children, and young people, offering services such as day care, overnight stays, end-of-life care, bereavement support, and life-enriching therapies including music therapy, sensory play, and physiotherapy.

Their team ensures children can enjoy life as children, not just as patients, while helping families create precious memories during the most challenging times.

Events like the Haven House Ball play a vital role in raising the funds needed to keep these essential services running. We are proud to stand alongside Haven House, supporting their mission to provide care whenever and wherever families need it most.



# Good Night Out Campaign

Our Account Manager Shahzad Zaib and members of our frontline team joined The City Security Council and Good Night Out Campaign for Operation Reframe, making the City's nightlife safer for women and girls.

This is more than a monthly patrol. It is a coordinated effort with government, private partners, and the City of London Police to tackle violence and harassment where they happen.

Good Night Out's mission is clear: nights out should be about fun and freedom, not fear. As a security provider, we support this mission by keeping venues safe, responding to incidents, and working on the ground to prevent harm.



We're excited to share that we've been shortlisted for two categories at the Fire & Security Matters Awards 2026:

ESG Company of the Year  
Guarding Company of the Year

A fantastic achievement and a real reflection of our team's hard work and commitment. Fingers crossed for the final awards!





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