



Inez Brown

TRAILBLAZING LAWYER, LEADER,
AND INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

SPEAKER BIO

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Speaker Bio

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Professor Inez Brown is a dynamic force in the legal and business world, with over two decades of expertise in transforming organisations through strategic consultancy, corporate governance, and championing diversity and inclusion. Her multifaceted career reflects an unwavering commitment to driving positive change across various sectors.



In a groundbreaking achievement, Prof. Brown became the first Black President of Birmingham Law Society in its 202-year history in 2020. During her tenure, she significantly expanded membership and established a pioneering diversity inclusion scheme. This initiative, now in its fifth year, provides financial scholarships and mentoring to aspiring lawyers from underrepresented backgrounds, embodying Prof. Brown's dedication to fostering inclusivity in the legal profession.

Prof. Brown's influence extends into academia, where she was recently appointed as Aston University's Vice-Chancellor Professional Fellow. In this role, she provides strategic counsel on equity, diversity, and inclusion, shaping inclusive educational environments and fostering diverse leadership. Her contributions to the legal profession and local business community were recognised with an honorary doctorate from Aston University in July 2023, underscoring her impact on both academic and professional spheres.

As the Managing Director of McKenzie Brown Consultancy Ltd, Prof. Brown empowers organisations across health, education, business, housing, and legal sectors.

Through her expertise, she has helped numerous clients unlock their potential and drive sustainable growth, demonstrating her ability to translate strategic vision into tangible results.

Prof. Brown's legal career includes notable achievements, particularly the Inquest of David Gray in 2010. This high-profile case, which involved a foreign locum doctor, garnered substantial media attention and led to significant changes in UK healthcare laws for locum workers. The case exemplifies Prof. Brown's impact on national policy and her ability to navigate complex legal challenges with skill and integrity.

In addition to her consultancy work, Prof. Brown serves as the Regional Chair of the Institute of Directors (IoD) Central region. In this capacity, she oversees 7 Branch Chairs and more than 2,000 members, promoting good governance, ethical practices, professional development, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Her Keynote speeches include:

- **Tools for the Job:** An exploration of essential strategies for modern professionals to maximise productivity in today's fast-paced business environment.
- **Ironing out Boards:** A deep dive into addressing dysfunctional board behaviors, improving communication, and aligning board activities with organizational goals.
- **Diversity and Inclusion (EDI):** Using the innovative zebra crossing analogy, Prof. Brown explores the intersection of diverse perspectives and strategies for creating inclusive environments.
- **Daring to Dream and Overcome Imposter Syndrome:** A personal account of her journey from a council estate to becoming a business leader and the first Black President of Birmingham Law Society, offering valuable insights on turning dreams into reality.

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Her leadership in this role further demonstrates her commitment to fostering excellence in corporate leadership and governance.

Prof. Brown's achievements have garnered widespread recognition. Her accolades include Birmingham Law Society Partner of the Year in 2016, Birmingham Black Lawyers Excellence Awards Diversity Champion in 2021, and the Association of Jamaica Nationals Diamond Icon Award in 2022. She has been consistently listed as a leading lawyer in prestigious directories such as Chambers & Partners and Legal 500. In a testament to her influence, Prof. Brown was featured in West Midlands Growth Company's brochure on '50 West Midlands from the region who have shaped the world', alongside notable figures such as Turner Prize winner Gillian Wearing CBE and Brit Award-winning artist Jorja Smith.

As a keynote speaker, Prof. Brown captivates audiences with her engaging and inspiring presentations.

Prof. Brown's speaking engagements offer a wealth of practical takeaways, including insights on productivity enhancement, effective lead generation techniques, strategies for addressing board dysfunction, the importance of embracing diverse perspectives, and methods for overcoming obstacles to achieve one's dreams. Her talks are carefully crafted to motivate, inspire, and provide actionable strategies for positive change.

With her unique blend of legal expertise, business acumen, and passionate advocacy for diversity and inclusion, Professor Inez Brown continues to inspire and empower individuals and organisations. Her journey from humble beginnings to becoming a respected leader in her field serves as a powerful testament to the potential for growth and success in the face of adversity. As a speaker, consultant, and leader, Prof. Brown remains dedicated to unlocking the potential in others and driving meaningful change in the professional world.

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