

22nd July 2013**Agenda Item: 14****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE,
HEALTH AND PUBLIC PROTECTION****GREAT BRITISH CARE AWARDS 2013 – SUPPORT FROM
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform the Committee of the Great British Care Awards and the upcoming East Midlands event, and to request approval for the department to provide sponsorship of the event.

Information and Advice

2. The Great British Care Awards have been in existence since 2008. The Awards take the form of a series of regional events throughout England and are a celebration of excellence across the care sector. The purpose of the awards is to pay tribute to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding excellence within their field of work. Last year there were 9 regional awards leading to 2 national finals for the home care and care home sectors, which took place in May and June this year.
3. There are nineteen awards categories available for nomination, which represent all areas of the social care sector, including awards for care team and care worker as well as awards in training, innovation and putting people first. The awards are all inclusive, bringing together the statutory, independent and voluntary sectors, as well as unpaid carers.
4. The awards have received support from across the social care sector, including the Department of Health, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS), Ceretas, the English Community Care Association (ECCA), the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), the National Skills Academy and Skills for Care.
5. Nottinghamshire County Council has supported the East Midlands awards event since its inception. It is viewed as part of the Council's commitment to supporting, developing and valuing the social care workforce across all sectors.
6. Sponsorship of the event is at a cost of £3,900 which will be met from the Corporate Director of Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection's budget. The cost includes a table for 10 guests at the October awards ceremony in Nottingham, publicity on the awards website and in the brochure for the awards ceremony, sponsorship of an individual award category and the opportunity for a Council representative to hand out this award at the event.

7. In previous years the Council has enjoyed much success in terms of employees who have been short-listed as finalists in their category, and finalists who have gone on to win awards. Last year the Council had 3 finalists at the awards event:
- Care Team award - Promoting Independence Workers from the Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe Physical Disability Team
 - Care Trainer award – Elise Adam and Steph Pindor. NHS Notts County employees working on a joint project with the County Council to develop high quality end of life care across the health and care sector
 - Dignity in Care award - Veronica Bell, Mental Health Social Worker. Veronica was successful in winning the regional award at the event held in Nottingham.
8. In 2011, the Putting People First award was won by Sue Mercer, Business Support Administrator at Mansfield Day Service in recognition of her support to service users in gaining their NVQ in Administration. Also short-listed in this category was the Adults with Asperger's Team. Jane Buxton, Care Assistant at Mansfield Day Service was a finalist in the Dignity in Care category. Prior to this, Council employees have picked up the award for Outstanding Contribution to Social Care on two occasions.
9. In June 2013 at the prestigious final of the Great British Home Care Awards in London, Veronica Bell was presented with the national Dignity in Care Award.

Other Options Considered

10. The Council could decide to stop its sponsorship of this event, but as highlighted earlier in the report it is seen as a good opportunity to show that the Council supports and values the social care workforce in Nottinghamshire and beyond.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The sponsorship is a low cost but valuable means of showing the Council's support for the social care sector and workforce. Recent media around poor quality care has made it even more important to recognise and promote excellent practice and good quality care. The Care Bill 2013 also includes a duty for local authorities to support a care market that delivers a wide range of high quality services. These awards offer an opportunity to do this in the region.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

13. Greater recognition and valuing of the work of staff in the care sector, as well as the promotion of good practice as a result of work highlighted by the awards, can only have positive implications for users of care services.

Financial Implications

14. These are laid out in paragraph 6 of the report.

Human Resources Implications

15. The awards provide an opportunity for care staff to be recognised for their work and the impact it has on service users. Being nominated and winning awards has proved to have a very positive effect on staff morale.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that the Adult Social Care and Health Committee:

- 1) Notes the contents of this report.
- 2) Gives approval for the Council to provide sponsorship of the East Midlands Awards event in October 2013 at a cost of £3,900.

DAVID PEARSON

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LM 10/07/13)

16. The Adult Social Care and Health Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (KAS 11/07/13)

17. The financial implications are contained within paragraph 6 of the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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