

- [Entry Deadline: November 13 2009](#)
- [LGC Awards: March 24 2010](#)

## **The LGC Awards 2010 is now open for entries.**

For the 15th year the LGC Awards will focus on rewarding all aspects of Local Government. As always they will be rigorously judged by industry experts, ensuring you can use the awards to measure accurately what you have achieved over the last year.

We're now calling for entries for the LGC Awards 2010! Make sure you enter now to be in with a chance of winning the most prestigious award available to Local Government.

### **Why are the LGC Awards important?**

Local government is at a crossroads due to:

- Question marks over the future funding of public services
- The uncertain outcome of the next general election

Both these factors create a potentially very different and difficult environment to work in. With the need to increase savings and efficiencies high up on the agenda, good results are paramount. The LGC Awards offer you and your authority the opportunity to prove such success on a national level:

*"You have to win Council of the Year to realise how different it is from any other achievement. High rankings and star ratings are rewarding in themselves but not the same as coming out on top in competition with other high performing councils in front of judges you respect. Staff morale in the organisation was really good before but Council of the Year took it to another level. You can't buy that."*

John Sinnott, Chief Executive, Leicestershire County Council

### **Why you should enter?**

- Benchmark your best practice
- Gain recognition from your peers
- Demonstrate you are at the cutting edge of service improvement and innovation
- Boost your organisation's profile by being featured in LGC
- Celebrate yours and your teams successes at the prestigious awards night
- Highlight your organisation's commitment to the services you provide

### **Entering is quick and simple:**

Entries for the LGC Awards 2010 will only be accepted online. Simply click on the enter now button above and follow the simple instructions. Don't forget to read the hints and tips to seamlessly go through the entry process.

Best of luck!

David Blackman  
Acting Editor  
Local Government Chronicle

# Standards and Ethics



Entries to this award must demonstrate the contribution standards and ethics are making to local democracy and public confidence. They must show how local politicians, officers and the standards committee are working together to champion ethical standards in their authority, and how this work has made a positive difference to perceptions of local democracy and public trust in their area.

## Entries must supply:

- Evidence of productive joint working between local politicians and officers, supported by the standards committee.
- Evidence of an internal and external communications work programme that promotes the value of ethical standards and the principles of public life.
- Evidence that demonstrates how high standards of conduct and ethics are central to the objectives, behaviours and culture of the authority.
- Evidence of proactive leadership of this work by senior politicians and senior officers
- Evidence of the positive difference your approach to high standards has made to the reputation of the authority and the perceptions of your local communities

## General Criteria:

- Identify your principal achievements from October 2008 to September 2009
- Provide convincing evidence for your success — for example customer surveys, benchmarking
- Show how your teams' work fits into the overall objectives of the council
- Focus on the content rather than the presentation, your entry should be clearly laid out but you will not score marks for design
- Don't bog down the judges, or yourselves, by preparing reams of appendices — keep any supplementary information short, relevant and clear
- If you have been working with outside partners such as voluntary groups or companies, include their endorsement in your submission
- Don't forget the basics — the judges will be looking for proof that your team is meeting all its service obligations
- Show the judges how you provide first class customer care
- Think what makes your team a winner — show imagination, vision and enthusiasm

- [ENTER NOW](#)
- [CATEGORY LIST](#)
- [WINNERS COMMENTS](#)

# Judging

Each category has a panel of judges, which typically includes chief executives of high performing councils, specialists in their field and a representative nominated by the sponsor of the category.

The closing date for entries is 13 November 2009. Entries will be short listed and published in December. If your entry is successful, you will hear from us direct to book an interview date on either the 28 or 29 January 2010. These dates will not be transferable so please note these dates in your diary now.

Successful applicants for Council of the Year and Most Improved Council will be asked to host a visit around the council in January/February 2010.

# Winners Comments

## **John Sinnott, Chief Executive, Leicestershire County Council, Council of the Year 2010**

You have to win Council of the Year to realise how different it is from any other achievement. High rankings and star ratings are rewarding in themselves but not the same as coming out on top in competition with other high performing councils in front of judges you respect. Staff morale in the organisation was really good before but Council of the Year took it to another level. You can't buy that.

It was also gratifying to receive congratulations from outside the Council. No one should be in any doubt that Council of the Year recognition lies only within the local government family, as pleasing as that has been. It's a great prize to aim for and a very special award to win.

## **Alison Doherty, Head of Business Unit, Citysafe Strategy Unit, Liverpool, Regeneration Award 2009**

Winning the LGC Regeneration Award 2009 means a great deal for us here in Liverpool. It is a fitting accolade, reward and recognition for our partners who have worked hard to make considerable achievements for the people of Liverpool. We are proud to have received this national award from such a prestigious body. The Award is important formal external validation of our effectiveness and extremely useful evidence for CAA purposes.

## **Rushcliffe Borough Council, public/private partnership award 2009**

Winning the Local Government Chronicle public/private partnership award was a tremendous accolade for both the local government and private sector partners. The recognition that such a national award brings has further strengthened our working relationships, generating our confidence to combine bold and innovative partnership working to benefit our communities. Our work together continues and we are delighted that the World Twenty20 has brought many positive comments, as well as significant economic benefits for our local, city and regional businesses.

## **South Gloucestershire Council, Management Team of the Year 2009**

We were all extremely proud to win the award for Management Team of the Year 2009, and the impact of winning this was almost immediate. It was a great accolade for the Council as a whole, raising the profile on the National Scene.

Following the award ceremony there was an immediate 'buzz' around the management team who had already gelled to an unprecedented level at being short-listed. This immediately had a positive effect on the rest of the teams at all levels back at base giving them all a morale boost through being part of a winning team, as well as through subsequent positive feedback from Councillors and local MP's emphasising the importance of both the service and the achievement.

The success has also encouraged other partners and stakeholders to comment on the

Service, with frequent reference to 'Management Team of the Year 2009'.

### **Geoff Wild, Director of Law & Governance, Kent County Council, Legal Award 2009**

I am delighted that the LGC has recognised us in this way. Through a dynamic and entrepreneurial approach, focussing on high quality, low cost and solution orientated services, we now act as legal advisers to over 200 public bodies across the country. By generating real income of more than £1m per year, which we then re-invest into KCC, we relieve the financial burden on the frontline services and the council taxpayer.

This year's awards were more rigorous and demanding than ever, both in the quality of the entrants and also the judging, which including a challenging oral presentation in front of a high calibre panel, and it was with a real sense of honour, pride and achievement that we collected this much-coveted trophy.

### **London Borough of Hackney, Most Improved Council 2009**

Jules Pipe, directly elected Mayor of Hackney, said: "The award was welcome recognition of the work that members and staff at Hackney put into improving life in the borough. It was pleasing to receive this endorsement from the local government world, but even more importantly residents are also recognising the improvements, with a 12 point increase in satisfaction in Hackney as a place to live since 2006."

### **Lambeth First LSP, Local Strategic Partnerships 2009**

We were very proud to be awarded the Local Strategic Partnership award in 2009. The judges acknowledged not only the work we've delivered but also the way in which we've delivered it, describing us as excited and enthusiastic about partnership working. This recognition has made a real difference to us as a partnership and individual partner organisations.

The process of applying for the award and then celebrating it afterwards allowed us to take stock of our efforts and achievements over the year. Most importantly it's strengthened our confidence and focus on delivering the ambition set for our partnership.

The award ceremony was a great night for our board members who were able to share in the celebration.