

Report to: Date of Meeting: Report by:

Subject:

# Social Work Resources Committee 28 June 2006 Executive Director (Social Work Resources)

# Care Accolade Awards 2006

# 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-
  - Advise Committee that Social Work Resources was awarded two Care Accolades on 2 June 2006.

### 2. Recommendation(s)

- 2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-
  - (1) that the content of the report be noted.

### 3. Background

- 3.1. Social Care Services were invited by the Scottish Social Services Council to apply for the Care Accolade Awards 2006. These awards were established in 2004 to recognise and promote good practice across the care sector. The awards are open to any organisation in the statutory, voluntary and private sectors in social services in Scotland. This includes social work, social care and early education and child care agencies across the country.
- 3.2. This year Accolades were presented for excellence in the following categories:
  - Recruitment and retention
  - Involvement of people who use services and carers
  - Partnership working
  - Developing learning organisations
  - Outstanding contribution to the social services sector
- 3.3. Social Work Resources submitted six applications: one for recruitment and retention, two for involvement of people who use services and their carers, one for partnership working and two for developing learning organisations.
- 3.4. The Resource was presented with two awards:

# (1) Successful initiative to recruit and retain staff for organisations with more than 100 employees

The Caring Careers for Young People project gives young people (16-18 years) training to the level of qualification required for registration with the Scottish Social Services Council and thus a career in social care. Recruits receive a weekly allowance plus expenses until they secure employment and the support of a training officer/mentor. The project has so far recruited 25 young people in to careers in care

and some of these will be supported to go on to become the social workers of tomorrow.

# (2) Increasing diversity of practice learning opportunities Practice Learning Centre

South Lanarkshire Council and Glasgow Strathclyde School of Social Work have developed an exciting, different and innovative Learning Centre model for practice learning.

The stakeholders collaborated in designing the Learning Centre and two pilot programmes were set up and delivered. Each was rigorously evaluated, including the views of service users and carers, and a new blueprint for social work learning was established. We now have an exciting new method of practice learning where learning is delivered by *teaching teams* supported by *teachers of practice* around *learning themes* Service users and carers inform student learning and contribute to the assessment of the student's practice.

This partnership aims to provide the best possible learning opportunities to social work students and to use the Learning Centre to promote a learning culture throughout the organisation.

# 4. Employee Implications

- 4.1. None
- 5. Financial Implications
- 5.1. None
- 6. Other Implications
- 6.1. None

### 7. Consultation

7.1. None

Harry Stevenson Executive Director (Social Work Resources)

6 June 2006

Link(s) to Council Objectives None

Previous References None

List of Background Papers None

### **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-Colette Brown, Directorate Support & Policy Officer

Ext: 3745 (Tel: 01698 453745)

E-mail: colette.brown@southlanarkshire.gov.uk