

## **Scottish Social Services Council News Release**

Winners of Scotland's top awards for social services announced today

The winners of Scotland's national Care Accolades awards were announced today (13 June 2008) at the ceremony held at the five star Hilton Glasgow Hotel. TV star Kaye Adams hosted the event which recognises best practice throughout the social service sector.

Over 180 guests gathered for the ceremony, a joint initiative by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) and the Scottish Government. Now in its fifth year, the Care Accolades recognise and promote the excellent work being done to address the issues facing social services in Scotland today. Guests at the Care Accolades included social services users, individual carers and workers from the public, private and voluntary social service sector.

Carole Wilkinson, Chair of the Care Accolades judging panel and Chief Executive of the SSSC said: "The Care Accolades is a major event for the sector. It provides social service workers with the opportunity to showcase their work and celebrate their achievements."

"The judges were very impressed by the quality, innovation and outstanding work that they saw and has been demonstrated to us today. I warmly congratulate the winners and finalists. Their hard work and dedication makes a real difference to the lives of people all over Scotland."

Minister for Children and Early Years Adam Ingram said: "What social service workers do, each and every day of their working lives makes a big difference to people's lives – the value of that contribution can never be underestimated. The great work accomplished by today's finalists and winners in caring for some of the most vulnerable in our society deserves the highest praise. It's an honour to be here today and be part of their success."

### **The winners for the 2008 awards are:**

#### **Involvement of people who use services in any aspect of the organisation's work**

North Ayrshire Council, Interlink Day Services, Fergushill Centre  
A special commendation was also awarded to Barnardo's, SPACE Service, Dundee

#### **Successful and innovative initiatives to retain staff**

Dundee City Council, Social Work Department

#### **Initiatives that promote integrated working that improve services**

South Lanarkshire Council - Lanarkshire drug treatment and testing project  
A special commendation was also awarded to North Ayrshire Council, Social Services, Community Development Team – Redburn gypsy/travellers project

#### **Innovative and/or imaginative learning and development in the workplace.**

South Lanarkshire Council – Developing a research culture

A special commendation was also awarded to Highland Council, Social Work Services

**Best Scottish social service team, unit or service from the voluntary, public or private sector**

Falkirk Council, Stenhousemuir Children and Families Team

**Overall winner**

North Ayrshire Council, Interlink Day Services, Fergushill Centre

**Notes to Editors**

For further information or to request digital pictures from the ceremony contact Dawn Geddes or Nicky Scott from the SSSC's communication office on 01382 207301/ 07979 068509 or 01382 207261/ 07766 133243.

[www.sssc.uk.com](http://www.sssc.uk.com)

Previous year's overall winners have included:

2007 - East Dunbartonshire Council Social Work Services

2006 – The ROC project, Aberlour Child Care Trust

2005 - Scottish Institute for Residential Child Care

**The 2008 judging panel includes:**

- Carole Wilkinson, Chief Executive, SSSC
- Garry Coutts, Convener, SSSC
- Val Cox, Deputy Director, Workforce Development and Capacity Issues, Scottish Government
- Alan Baird, Vice President, Association of Directors of Social Work
- Kate Pryde, registered social worker and previously SSSC Council Member
- Romy Langeland, previously Chief Executive of Aberlour Childcare Trust
- Professor Frank Clark, Convener, Care Commission
- Betty Bridgeford, former SSSC Council Member and retired Director of Social Work
- Professor Sandy Cameron, retired Executive Director of Social Work Resources in South Lanarkshire Council and current Chair of the Parole Board for Scotland
- Dharmendra Kanani, Director for Scotland, Big Lottery Fund
- Professor Mary Marshall, Emeritus Professor of the University of Stirling, former Head of Dementia Services Development Centre, sessional inspector for SWIA and writes and lectures on dementia care
- Professor Joyce Lishman, Robert Gordon University
- Isobel Anderson, President, Carers Scotland
- Noni Cobban, Convener, Alzheimer Scotland.

**Sponsors of the Care Accolades 2008 are:**

- The Scottish Government
- Glasgow City Council
- ADSW
- Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS)
- Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)
- Association of Directors of Social Work (ADSW)
- Unison Scotland
- Joint Improvement Team (JIT).