



*Excellence in
Local Government*

RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE AND VISION

THE BEACON AWARDS CEREMONY AND GALA DINNER

4 March 2008
Royal Horticultural Halls
Victoria, London

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING SUCCESS AND EXCELLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

The Beacon Awards Ceremony represents the highlight of the Beacon year. This high-profile event recognises local authorities' clear vision, outstanding achievement and service excellence.

Following the spectacular success of last year's event, the ceremony will celebrate the outstanding achievements of all best value authorities that have reached the short-listed stage.

Every attending authority will be publicly recognised and rewarded for their exemplary efforts in servicing the community, which is reflected in attaining short-listed status through the rigorous application process. The round 9 Beacons will be revealed by a senior government representative on the night amid the excitement of the celebrations.

Senior government representatives and key personnel from local authorities will again be amongst the 600 guests attending this special evening in central London, dedicated to rewarding and sharing the success achieved by Beacons and all short-listed authorities for the difference they are making in their communities.



Beacon authority receiving 2007 award from attending Ministers Ed Miliband and Angela Smith

Participating guests will have the opportunity to:

- celebrate as a team the benefits brought to the communities they serve
- network with other authorities and share best practice
- be inspired by and learn about the work of other authorities
- meet senior government representatives with team photo opportunities
- learn what lies ahead in the Beacon year

Based on delegates' feedback, guests will benefit from even more networking opportunities before, during and after the ceremony. As reported by Warwick Business

School in their recent independent research, this high-status event also presents the ideal occasion for motivating and rewarding teams and individuals for their efforts in delivering outstanding services to their local communities.

The impressive wealth of networking and team sharing opportunities coupled with a champagne reception, three course gala dinner, on stage entertainment and after dinner disco party, makes the Beacon Awards Ceremony a must-attend event for best value authorities.

“ The event was a really nice way to reward our team for all their efforts. ”

“ A good opportunity for all short-listed authorities to be praised and not just those who won the award. ”

“ It was excellent, in local government very rarely you get rewards and when you do it is along the lines of a cup of tea and an egg sandwich. This was something special which was a real pat on the back. ”

Feedback from Round 8 Beacon Awards Ceremony attendees



round 8 gala dinner

ABOUT THE BEACON SCHEME

The Beacon Scheme is unique amongst local government awards schemes. It is not only an accolade for excellence and innovation amongst authorities; it is also about sharing knowledge and experience for the benefit of everyone. Above all, it is about improving the quality of life for all citizens. This is why the Scheme is supported and praised by ministers and valued highly by the whole sector.



Beacon authority receiving 2007 award from attending Ministers Jim Knight and Angela Smith

Quality of life for local people is shaped by the services their best value authorities offer them, from education and waste collection, through to fire fighting and crime reduction. This role brings with it a responsibility for authorities to provide the best possible customer-focused services.



networking and celebrating at the champagne reception

Now in its ninth year, the Scheme has played a crucial role in rewarding the best and sharing good practice. Not only local authorities but also fire, park and police authorities have taken part across many themes over the years.

In round nine of the Scheme, ministers have selected ten new Beacon Themes that relate to key areas for improving the quality of life for local communities and the work of local government:

Theme 1: Better Brighter Futures

Theme 2: Better Public Places

Theme 3: Care Matters: Improving the Outcomes for Children in Care

Theme 4: Dignity in Care

Theme 5: Improving Accessibility

Theme 6: Local Strategic Partnerships and Local Area Agreements

Theme 7: Reducing Health Inequalities

Theme 8: Reducing Re-offending

Theme 9: Tackling Climate Change

Theme 10: Transforming Services: Citizen Engagement and Empowerment

After the awards, Beacons will work with the Improvement and Development Agency and with each other to develop a co-ordinated programme of theme-specific learning events and peer-support activities.

As reported by Warwick Business School, the Beacon Scheme is best at delivering knowledge and process for improvement, innovation and best practice. **Ninety percent of surveyed Beacons reported benefits such as higher national profile, boosting staff morale plus motivating and sustaining further improvement.**



Being a Beacon has been a real boost to our staff and partners' morale and personal development, and raised our profile on a local and regional basis. It has given our practitioners the confidence and opportunities to present their work and thinking to a wider audience.





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RESERVE YOUR PLACE AT THE BEACON AWARDS CEREMONY AND GALA DINNER

4 March 2008,
Royal Horticultural Halls,
Victoria, London



the royal horticultural halls

The Beacon Awards Ceremony is a unique opportunity for you and your team to network with other best value authorities, be inspired by outstanding success and achievement and be rewarded for all your efforts.

Thanks to sponsor support for the event, we are able to offer tickets for the Beacon Awards Ceremony at the highly subsidised price of £89 (+VAT) per person.

Each ticket includes entry to the awards ceremony, champagne reception, three-course dinner, on stage entertainment and after dinner disco party.

Short listed organisations are eligible for three free places at the event. Additional places can be purchased at the above price and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

DUE TO HIGH DEMAND, PLEASE RESERVE YOUR PLACES BY 30 NOVEMBER 2007 TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

RESERVATIONS:

To reserve places at this prestigious event, please book on-line by visiting www.beaconawards.org.uk

Tables seat 10 persons.

payment:

To facilitate payment, an invoice will be issued on receipt of the booking. Alternatively, credit card payments can be accepted by calling 01772 767765.

accommodation:

For information and bookings please visit www.beaconawards.org.uk

venue:

For information and directions please visit www.horticultural-halls.co.uk

event details and timings:

Dress code: black tie

Welcome champagne reception from 18:30

Awards ceremony from 19:30

For more information please call the event helpline on 01772 767765.

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