

Voluntary & Community Sector Awards Scheme 2010









Wiltshire Council and NHS Wiltshire are keen to acknowledge the contribution made by the VCS to the Well-being of Wiltshire residents. We are therefore planning the first Joint Wiltshire VCS Awards in 2010.

Is your team working on something exceptional or innovative that is helping to transform the lives of people in Wiltshire? Are you proud to share the work you are doing with your colleagues? If so, we are keen to hear from you, spread the message and celebrate!

This is the first year of the Wiltshire VCS Awards scheme, which has been designed to recognise good practice and good performance, encourage sharing of success stories and to celebrate the many excellent and innovative things happening in the county. It will culminate with an evening Awards Ceremony on 19 October 2010, in the Corn Exchange in Devizes, where results will be announced and awards presented.

There are 6 team award categories:

-  *Partnership Working;*
-  *Innovation;*
-  *Best Community Initiative nominated by an Area Board;*
-  *Most Inclusive Approach;*
-  *Community Leadership;*
-  *Volunteer of the Year.*

There is an overall *Making a Difference* award for the winner of the winners.

Full details of the awards scheme are available from vcs@wiltshire.gov.uk



Details of the award categories

Partnership Working

The award winner will demonstrate exceptional partnership working.

To be successful in this category, you must demonstrate that those who benefit from the scheme are asked their views and their responses are taken into account as the service/project develops.

Innovation

To be successful in this category, you must demonstrate creativity either through developing a new initiative or through creative use of existing resources.

Volunteer of the Year

The award winner will need to demonstrate how their involvement benefits and inspires those they assist and/or those they work with.

Best Community Initiative Nominated by an Area Board

This award will be shortlisted from nominations made by each Community Area Board. It will be a project that the Board has funded in the previous year. Initiatives will be expected to demonstrate a positive local outcome, partnership working and community involvement.

Shortlisting will take place in advance of the award ceremony and the 3 shortlisted schemes will be invited to send representation to the event. At the ceremony a short DVD film on each shortlisted nominated project will be shown and the audience will vote for the winner.

Most Inclusive Approach

The award winner will demonstrate a successful contribution in making the local community a better place to live and work. Winners will demonstrate respect for dignity, beliefs, culture and feelings and an ability to communicate sensitively.

You must demonstrate action that makes the community safer, stronger or more inclusive.

Community Leadership

The award winner will demonstrate a positive contribution to leading in their community in Wiltshire. This may be in relation to the citizens of Wiltshire generally or to a specific area or group.

Making a difference

This is the overall award, selected from one of the award category winners. It will be judged as making the biggest difference to the aspirations of stronger, more resilient communities for Wiltshire

All entries must demonstrate positive results for individuals, groups or communities in Wiltshire.



Who can apply?

The VCS awards are open to any individual, group or organisation in the Voluntary & Community Sector in Wiltshire. Nominees may be an individual, team, service or a VCS organisation. Joint teams, or teams that work in partnership with other organisations, can also apply.

How do I apply?

To express an interest in applying for an award please send an email to Leanne Homewood who will send you all relevant information.

Your submission needs to consist of:

- ✚ Completed front sheet
- ✚ Up to 500 words explaining why you are nominating this person or project or organisation.
- ✚ And any other supporting evidence you may wish to include

The deadline for entries is Friday 20 August 2010.

How will awards be judged?

Nominations will be judged by a panel which will include representatives from the community & partner organisations.

What happens next?

Once applications are received and judged by the panel, short-listed nominees will be informed and invited to attend the Awards Ceremony on 19th October 2010. Short-listed teams will be invited to send 3 people, and individual nominees invited to bring a guest.

The event will be an opportunity to celebrate what works well, be proud of the innovative work in Wiltshire, and, above all, enjoy ourselves.

Please do take part in the awards scheme!

For further information, contact: Leanne Homewood on 01225 713510 or leanne.homewood@wiltshire.gov.uk

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