



Leading learning and skills

**Date of issue- March
2007**

**Publication number –
em-appawards-regional-
pr-march2007**

Top Apprentices and Employers in the East Midlands Celebrate Their Success

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) East Midlands has hosted its second Regional Apprenticeship Awards to celebrate the achievements of dynamic and enthusiastic young people and businesses across the county.

Finalists from Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Rutland, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire celebrated at the Walkers Stadium in Leicester as winners in each of the five categories accepted their awards with pride.

Karen Woodward, Regional Director of Skills, LSC East Midlands, welcomed guests to the award ceremony at which Carter and Carter Group Plc were the main sponsors, and radio personalities Vick Blight and Amy Voce from Heart FM played hosts for the evening at the 'Oscars' style event.

Karen Woodward said: "Our regional economy depends upon skilled individuals across the whole spectrum of vocational learning and it is important that we recognise the high achievements in these fields.



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“It’s also important to remember the companies awarded for their support of Apprenticeships. If it wasn’t for these companies displaying forward thinking and offering apprentice positions, there would almost certainly be a fall in the number of skilled workers across the country. Finally, all those nominated and their training provider and employer should be proud of their achievements and we applaud them all.”

All regional winners will be entered into the LSC’s national Apprenticeship Awards 2007 to be held on Wednesday 20th June 2007 at the London Hilton Hotel on Park Lane.

Award Winners

Young Apprentice of the Year Award

Acknowledge and celebrate young learners’ exceptional achievements during a Young Apprenticeship Programme.

East Midlands Regional Winner

George Matthews, aged 15, from Stamford, Lincolnshire, is in his second year of training at Itec Automotive Study Centre and has already been offered employment when he leaves school, to work on the V W Apprenticeship scheme at Cooks of Stamford.

Apprentice of the Year Award – Apprenticeship

Rewards individuals exceeding their employers’ or learning providers’ expectations.

Northampton and East Midlands Regional Winner

Matthew Young, aged 21, from Northampton, completed his Hairdressing Apprenticeship in June 2006 and is now undertaking the Advanced Apprenticeship



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with learning provider Aston Recruitment & Training Ltd whilst working at Impressions Hairdressing Salon in Northampton.

Derbyshire

Lucy Buxton, aged 19, from Alvaston, Derbyshire, completed her Business & Administration Apprenticeship in November 2006 with learning provider Training Services 2000 Ltd whilst working at Secure Alarm Company Ltd.

Leicestershire

Emily Pearce, aged 19, from Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, completed her NVQ 2 in Business & Administration Apprenticeship in May 2006 with learning provider Stephenson College whilst working at James Hampden Insurance Brokers Ltd.

Lincolnshire and Rutland

Ben Wise, aged 19, from Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, completed his Plumbing Apprenticeship in July 2006 with learning provider Grantham College whilst working at Valley Plumbing.

Nottinghamshire

Mark Parish, aged 19, from Syston, Leicestershire, is undertaking a Level 3 Cabinet Making Apprenticeship with learning provider NCN College Nottingham whilst working at Wreake Valley Craftsmen.

Apprentice of the Year Award – Advanced Apprenticeship

Rewards individuals exceeding their employers' or learning providers' expectations.

Nottingham and Joint East Midlands Regional Winner



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James Cullingworth, aged 19, from Woodborough, Nottingham, completed his Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence in May 2006 with Nottingham Forest Football Club and was part of the 1st Team Squad for 2006/2007 season.

Lincolnshire and Rutland Joint East Midlands Regional Winner

Claire Cornett, aged 22, from Greetham, Rutland, completed her Health and Social Care Advanced Apprenticeship in November 2005 with learning provider HBS Options whilst working for Oak House Residential Home as a Care Assistant.

Leicestershire Joint County Winner

Louise Barston, aged 19, from Groby, Leicester, completed her Business Administration Advanced Apprenticeship in November 2006 with learning provider VT Training whilst working at Moore & York Lettings.

Leicestershire Joint County Winner

Philip Riley, aged 20, from Burton-on-the-Wolds, Leicestershire, is undertaking a Level 3 Hand Crafted Furniture Advanced Apprenticeship with learning provider Leicester College whilst working at deVOL Kitchens.

Derbyshire

Daniel Davis, aged 21, from Top Valley, Nottingham, is undertaking a NVQ 3 Technical Services Advanced Apprenticeship whilst working at Rolls-Royce Civil Aerospace.

Northamptonshire

Kelly Panks, aged 21, from Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire, completed her Maintenance Engineering Advanced Apprenticeship in September 2006 with learning provider NITAL whilst working at Sarantel Ltd.

Personal Achiever of the Year Award

Rewards individuals who exceed their employers' and learning providers' expectations by achieving success while dealing with difficulties on a personal or work level.



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Nottinghamshire Joint East Midlands Regional Winner

Annie Jackson, aged 19, from Sherwood, Nottinghamshire, is undertaking Sycamore Entry to Employment with learning provider Learning Works for Young People as well as studying for an NVQ in Health and Social Care at New College Nottingham.

Nottinghamshire Joint East Midlands Regional Winner

Aaron Knowles, aged 21, from Newark, Nottinghamshire, is undertaking a Customer Service Level 2 Apprenticeship with learning provider Strategic Training Solutions whilst working at Rich Furnishings.

Northamptonshire

Daniel Dovkants, aged 17, from Burton Latimer, Northamptonshire, is undertaking a Plastering Apprenticeship with learning provider Kettering Borough Training whilst working at Millwood Builders & Plastering.

Derbyshire

Kyrie Bennett, aged 17, from Hilton, Derbyshire, is undertaking a Business Administration Level 2 Apprenticeship with learning provider Training Services 2000 Ltd whilst working at Derby City Council.

Leicestershire

Michelle Davidson, aged 19, from Loughborough, Leicestershire, has completed her Customer Service Advanced Apprenticeship with learning provider VT Training whilst working at Julian Graves.

Lincolnshire and Rutland

Natalie Maddison, aged 22, from Boston, Lincolnshire, has completed her Level 3 Playwork Advanced Apprenticeship with learning provider Children's Links whilst working at Hawthorn Tree Community Children's Centre.

Employer of the Year Award, 1-9 Employees

Acknowledges employers' commitment to developing young people through Apprenticeships.

Derbyshire and East Midlands Regional Winner



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Face Facts in Buxton, employing nine people with one currently undertaking an Apprenticeship with learning provider University of Derby - Buxton College of Further Education.

Leicestershire

Rayners in Wigston Magna, Leicestershire, employing six people with four currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Heart of England Training in Leicester.

Lincolnshire and Rutland

Ivor John Hallam Motor Engineers in Lincoln, employing four people with one currently undertaking an Apprenticeship with learning provider HBS Options at Lincoln College.

Nottinghamshire

Rich Furnishings in Newark, Nottinghamshire, employing five people with one currently undertaking an Apprenticeship with learning provider Strategic Training Solutions in Mansfield.

Employer of the Year Award, 10-49 Employees

Acknowledges employers' commitment to developing young people through Apprenticeships.

Leicestershire and East Midlands Regional Winner

Scott Bailye in Earl Shilton, Leicestershire, employing ten people with two currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider North Warwickshire and Hinckley College.

Derbyshire

NCS Fabrications Ltd in Derby, employing 25 people with three currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Training Services 2000 Ltd in Derby.

Lincolnshire and Rutland

Scot's Hair Design in Grantham, Lincolnshire, employing 12 people with four currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Grantham College.

Nottinghamshire



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Woodborough Hall in Nottinghamshire, employing 20 people with four currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider New College Nottingham.

Northamptonshire

Sterling Construction Management Ltd, Kettering, Northamptonshire, employing 20 people with three currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Kettering Borough Training.

Employer of the Year Award, 50-249 Employees

Acknowledges employers' commitment to developing young people through Apprenticeships.

Leicestershire and East Midlands Regional Winner

Slack & Parr Ltd in Kegworth, Leicestershire, employing 196 people with 27 currently undertaking Apprenticeships with the on-site Training Manager.

Northamptonshire

Belmont Press Ltd in Northampton, employing 223 people with five currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Kettering Borough Training.

Derbyshire

Chesterfield Borough Council, employing 209 people with 31 currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Work Based Learning at Chesterfield College.

Lincolnshire and Rutland

David Wilson Homes North Midlands in Nottingham, employing 231 people with 22 currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Grantham College.

Nottinghamshire

Bodhill & Sons Contractors Ltd in Linby, Nottinghamshire, employing 137 people with currently six undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider CITB in Loughborough.

Employer of the Year Award – Over 250 Employees

Acknowledges employers' commitment to developing young people through Apprenticeships.



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Lincolnshire and Rutland and East Midlands Regional Winner

Siemens Industrial Turbomachinery Ltd in Lincoln, employing 2200 people with currently 68 undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Lincoln College.

Derbyshire

Rolls-Royce plc in Derby, employing 22,000 people in the UK with 223 currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Derby College.

Leicestershire

New Look in Loughborough, Leicestershire, employing 52 people in the store with five currently undertaking Apprenticeships with learning provider Protocol Skills in Leicester.

Ends

For further press information please contact: -

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Notes to Editors:

- The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for planning and funding high-quality vocational education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world-class standards. Our vision is that by 2010, young people and adults in England have the knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. Established in 2001, we work nationally, regionally and locally from a network of offices across the country.
- All regional applications are put forward for the National Awards in London on 20th June 2007.

About Apprenticeships

- There are currently 255,500 young people aged 16-24 undertaking an Apprenticeship nationally and nearly 19,000 in the East Midlands. They can choose from over 180 career paths in 80 different sectors of industry and commerce.
- Apprenticeships provide 16-24 year-olds with a mixture of on and off-the-job training while they are being paid. For employers, Apprenticeships offer the



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opportunity to improve their businesses bottom line through the tailored, relevant training of highly motivated young people.

- There are two levels of Apprenticeships:
 1. 'Apprenticeships', equivalent to GCSE level, incorporate a National Vocational Qualification to Level 2; key skills and in some cases a technical certificate
 2. 'Advanced Apprenticeships', equivalent to A-levels, incorporate a National Vocational Qualification to Level 3, key skills and a technical certificate
- On 10th May 2004, Chancellor Gordon Brown and Secretary of State for Education Charles Clarke announced the introduction of Young Apprenticeships for students aged 14-16 and Adult Apprenticeships for those people aged 25 and over. Pilots for both are currently running
- e2e (Entry to Employment) is designed for young people aged 16–18 who are not currently in education, employment or training. It can also be for people who may require a range of additional support to enable them to progress into education, employment or training.