

Rewarding Excellence in Cumbria **Closing Date 22 December 2006**

Date of issue 7 December 2006

Publication number Issue NWR 012

Embargo until

Learning and Skills Council (LSC) Cumbria is once again rewarding Excellence in Cumbria. The closing date for this year's awards is fast approaching. Completed entry forms must be submitted by Friday 22 December 2006.

If your life has turned around through the power of learning, or your job has developed through new practices or indeed you have achieved a personal goal by acquiring new skills, then its time to be rewarded.

The Excellence in Cumbria Awards 2006 were launched last month by Emmerdale actress, Jenna Coleman (Jasmine Thomas). Now in their sixth year the awards are regarded as the most prestigious of their kind in the County. The awards are being run by LSC Cumbria in association with ITV Border and partners include the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE), Connexions Cumbria and the Trades Union Congress (TUC). The awards are aimed at recognising and rewarding people who have excelled at learning.

Award Categories include:

Youth Progress Award (in memory of Doreen Clark and sponsored by Connexions Cumbria)

Youth Achievement Award

Skills For Life Award

Adult Learners Award (sponsored by the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education - NIACE)

Breakthrough Award

TUC Lifelong Learning Award

There are also three Awards for Apprenticeships that recognise achievement by individuals and organisations:

- Apprentice of the Year Award
- Apprentice Employer of the Year
- Young Apprentice of the Year

Ruth Bullen, Area Director, Learning and Skills Council Cumbria, comments: "The Excellence in Cumbria Awards are a wonderful way of recognising peoples' achievements, whether in work based learning, further education or acquiring a new personal skill. Experience tells us that just being nominated by someone, let alone winning, is a great boost for individuals and organisations alike so we would encourage more nominations in all categories".

You can nominate yourself, someone you know or a business by telephoning Janis Wilkinson on FREEPHONE 0808 1455778 or by applying online at:
www.excellenceawards.org.uk

Individual area winners from the North (Carlisle and Eden), West (Allerdale and Copeland), South West (Barrow-in-Furness) and South East (South Lakeland) will be announced in February 2007 and automatically entered into the Oscars style County Final which will take place at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal on 29 March 2007.

-Ends-

Notes to Editors

1. The judges will select area individual winners from the North (Carlisle and Eden); West (Allerdale and Copeland); South West (Barrow-in-Furness) and South East (South Lakeland).
2. Each area winner will receive £200, presented in their area during February 2007. Area

winners will be automatically invited to the County Final at the Castle Green Hotel on 29 March 2007. If they are an overall County winner, they will receive a further £300 and an Excellence trophy.

3. Partners in this year's Awards include ITV Border, Connexions Cumbria, the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE) and the Trades Union Congress (TUC).

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