



Mr Peter McNaney
Chief Executive
Belfast City Council
Adelaide Exchange
24-26 Adelaide Street
BELFAST
BT2 8GD

Re: NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS
Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle 18th February 2010

11 January 2010

Dear Mr Peter McNaney,

Notification - as Finalist in this Year's NILGA Awards

Congratulations on having members of Belfast City Council become finalists to this year's Local Government Annual Awards. The 2010 NILGA Annual Conference and Exhibition will be held on the **18th & 19th February 2010**, in the **Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle**. During the evening of Thursday 18th February, NILGA will host the Gala Dinner and the Northern Ireland Local Government Awards ceremony where this year's ten overall award winners will be announced. A full list of the finalists is attached.

As your council is a finalist, I would like to offer you two free places per category shortlisted, for the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony. Please contact Alice Comiskey by email a.comiskey@nilga.org to confirm the names of the eight representatives from your council who will be attending as guests. Also, if you wish to book additional places at the Awards, up to eight additional places are available per finalist council at a rate of £45.00 (+vat) per person.

As part of the awards ceremony we will be producing a short film on each of the finalist entries. Red Box media will be contacting the council representative who submitted each entry in the coming weeks to arrange a suitable time to visit the council for filming.

The Gala Dinner and Awards event promises to be the highlight of this year's local government calendar. Should you have any queries or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Alice at the NILGA office.

I very much look forward seeing you there, and to an enjoyable evening of showcasing Northern Ireland's best in Local Government Projects.

Yours sincerely,

Heather Moorhead

Heather Moorhead
Chief Executive, NILGA

The 10 award categories and finalists are:

1. **Best Local Authority Service Team - Sponsored by APSE:** Belfast City Council - Community Safety; Cookstown District Council - Ballyronan Marina; and Newtownabbey Borough Council - Zest Fitness.
2. **Change Champions in Practice - Sponsored by LGSC:** Coleraine Borough Council - Causeway Kids Cuisine; Coleraine Borough Council - Wildcats Activ8; and Limavady Borough Council - Team Success and Culture Change at Roe Valley.
3. **Innovative HR in Practice - Sponsored by LGSC:** Armagh City and District Council - A muscular approach to managing absence; and Omagh District Council - Innovative and integrated HR.
4. **Innovative Training Initiative - Sponsored by LGTG:** Ards Borough Council - Excellence Driver Training; Lisburn City Council - Unlocking potential...delivering excellence; and Omagh District Council - Delta-a force to be reckoned with....
5. **Best Initiative by a Councillor – NAC:** Ald Anderson – Craigavon Borough Council; Cllr Curran – Down District Council; and Ald Moutray - Craigavon Borough Council.
6. **Best Joint Initiative between Councils - Sponsored by SOLACE:** Blackwater Regional Partnership (Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council, Armagh City & District Council, Monaghan County Council); Café Culture – Good Relations Conference, September 2009 (Coleraine Borough Council, Derry City Council, Ballymoney Borough Council, Limavady Borough Council, Magherafelt District Council and Moyle District Council supported by OFMDFM); and East Border Region Tourism Partnership (Ards Borough Council, Armagh City & District Council, Banbridge District Council, Craigavon Borough Council, Down District Council, Louth County Council, Meath County Council, North Down Borough Council, Monaghan County Council and Newry and Mourne District Council).
7. **Employee of the Year - Sponsored by WJMT:** Ciara Lowe - Newry and Mourne District Council; Ian Beaney - North Down Borough Council; and Katrina McGuire – Lisburn City Council.
8. **Best Sustainable Development Initiative – Sponsored by NILGA:** Belfast City Council - Lord Mayor's Big Clean Up; Cookstown District Council - Willow Biomass Project; and Larne Borough Council - Sustainable Living Magazine.
9. **Best Improvement Project - Sponsored by NILGA:** Belfast City Council - Building Control Partnership; Belfast City Council - Ulster Hall

redevelopment; and North Down Borough Council - Bangor Castle walled Garden.

10. ***Women in Local Councils Award - Sponsored by WILC:*** Ards Borough Council / North Down Borough Council - Visible Women; Craigavon Borough Council - Olga Murtagh; and Derry City Council - Mainstreaming gender equality - we've made a difference!