

## Golden Gates Housing Trust press release

25 May 2011



### **Golden Gates Housing Trust's HR department win team of year award at 2011 Housing Heroes Awards.**

Staff from Golden Gates Housing Trust (GGHT) have been named Human Resources team of the year 2011, beating stiff competition from other social housing providers around the country.

GGHT's Human Resources and Organisational Development team were honoured at a glittering awards ceremony in London last week, hosted by the BBC news presenter George Alagiah, and organised by Inside Housing magazine and the Chartered Institute of Housing.

Stuart Macdonald, Editor of Inside Housing, said: "I've been involved with the Housing Heroes Awards for a number of years now and am amazed that the standard of the entries keeps getting higher. This is testament to the continued fantastic work going on in the housing sector, despite a difficult backdrop. We had almost 300 entries this year and it was tough selecting a shortlist, never mind choosing a winner. Congratulations to everyone who entered."

Speaking after the awards ceremony, GGHT Chief Executive Peter Mercer, said: "I would like to pass on my congratulations to everyone in our Human Resources and Organisational Development team. This award is a fantastic achievement for our staff and reflects on their hard work over the last 12 months.

"Following our transfer we have undertaken our biggest ever recruitment drive and the team have played a key role in ensuring that we have been able to bring in the best people and support the local economy. We are currently

delivering a series of employment initiatives designed to help people from our estates in Warrington gain skills and experience that will help them gain employment either with ourselves or with another local employer. This has included working with Warrington Borough Council and Job Centre Plus to recruit and offer 78 local people roles through the Future Jobs Fund.”

The 2011 Housing Heroes Awards were sponsored by Capita Consulting, Capita Resourcing, Hays, Higgins, Insight, Lovell Partnership, United House and Walters Snowdon Advertising.

Nearly 650 guests gathered for the celebrations at the prestigious London Hilton Hotel on Park Lane on 20 May and enjoyed a terrific presentation by George Alagiah.

The judges included some of the most respected people in the social housing sector, Richard Beamish, Asset Skills, Cora Carter, TAROE, Kate Davies, Notting Hill Housing Group, Kevin Dodd, Wakefield District Housing, Francis Kabia, Brent Housing Partnership, Stuart Macdonald, Inside Housing, Richard McCarthy, Communities and Local Government, Helen McHale, Stockport Homes, Mike Owen, Carrick Housing, Brendan Sarsfield, Family Mosaic and Caroline Thorpe, Inside Housing.

-IMAGES -



WINNER





-ENDS-

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### **About Housing Heroes Awards**

For more information about the awards visit Inside Housing's website – [www.insidehousing.co.uk](http://www.insidehousing.co.uk). This has more details of the judges, sponsors, pictures and details of all the other finalists shortlisted for the various awards.

### **About Golden Gates Housing Trust**

Golden Gates Housing Trust (GGHT) launched on 29 November 2010, formed as part of the Stock Transfer of 8,700 homes from Warrington Borough Council. The transfer converted the successful Arms Length Management Organisation Golden Gates Housing into a registered provider of social housing.

GGHT will be investing around £105M in tenants' homes and neighbourhoods over the first 5 years and £530M over 30 years to deliver the "Warrington

Standard". This Standard has been developed by GGHT's tenants to ensure that improvements and investment is prioritised in the areas that tenants have said are a priority. Plans include the installation of double glazing and secured front and rear doors in all properties over the next five years as well as environmental improvements such as fencing, gates and lighting.