

**ENE Awards meeting
ENE Offices, Birtley
Friday 2 February, 9.30am – 11.30am**

Present:

Liz Reay, Simon Lindsay, Sue Bridal, Mark Cheetham, Janis Jones, Christina Baker, Helen Fletcher, Tricia Collins, John Raine.

1) Apologies:

Carol Blythe, Lynne Storey.

2) Minutes of Previous meeting

SL said that the LSC had not confirmed the sponsorship of £5K and would look into it asap to confirm either way, but felt there shouldn't be a problem.

The minutes were then agreed.

3) Matters arising

No matters arising.

4) Recommendations from evaluation.

An evaluation report was compiled by sending out a questionnaire to various people involved in the 2006 Awards.

The recommendations included:-

Applicants and Judges needed further clarification of what is required

The categories needed to be reviewed

It was felt that the interview process was a bit of a 'grilling'.

There needs to be more publicity in the North East about the awards.

The Steering Group recommendations:-

There needs to be clarity of criteria for each category.

Categories should be changed to: -

Organisations of over 250 including public - would be judged on what they have done in the North East to help remove the barriers to employment for all, ultimately improving economic and social life within the region (ONE have agreed to sponsor this category).

Other Categories:-

Training Providers of up to 25.

Training Providers of between 26 & 250.

Businesses of: -

1 – 10

11 – 50

51 – 250

SL

<p>The Individual who has made a difference</p> <p>An award for overall Best Practice (which might not even be from one of the winners!)</p> <p>SL will contact regional organisation for colleges, Association of Colleges, to ensure entries from them</p> <p>.</p> <p>SL said that the LSC would prefer to sponsor the smaller category but would look into the possibility of sponsoring both. The LSC would, if they couldn't afford to sponsor both, be happy for another organisation to sponsor the TP category.</p> <p>There should be help given to smaller organisations to complete applications.</p> <p>It was suggested that the steering groups would be the judges – not to bring other people who had not been involved through the process in at the last minute. SL said that this wasn't a good idea as it was felt that it imposed a restriction. It was agreed that SG members be given priority for being judges but other sponsors could be approached for judging. John Wright, FSB probably wouldn't be available to judge this year.</p> <p>SL asked about the diversity of the SG, judges and sponsors. It was agreed that ENE look into this and try to have a more diverse group.</p> <p>Marketing – more needs to be done. We have a new Marketing & Communications Manager, John Raine. He will be doing a marketing plan for all ENE's projects very soon which will include the awards. We will of course be using our existing networks such as the FSB, NEEC, NECC, BIC and our partners.</p> <p>All SG members were invited to attend the Equality in Employment conference on the 23rd March at the Baltic. They could bring stands and info along to the event but would need to confirm this with Helen. We will be having a lunch time session called 'Business Against Bigotry' which will involve businesses signing a pledge. The SG members and sponsors could be 'standard bearers' for this.</p>	<p>SL</p> <p>SL</p> <p>ENE</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>5) Review of Sponsorship</p> <p>The Co-op could potentially be a large sponsor. LR to contact them and confirm the category and amount. They could be sponsors of the Best Practice awards.</p> <p>JR is also contacting larger organisations re sponsorship.</p> <p>CB had been speaking to Frank Haslam Milan about being involved in the awards and they thought that if they were it would be as a sponsor. Morrisons construction is receiving training from LH. LH to get a contact with regards to sponsorship.</p> <p>The Northern Echo will be providing coverage as per previous years.</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>JR</p> <p>LH</p> <p>ENE</p>

<p>There needs to be press releases.</p> <p>With regards to the evening there was discussion about the possibility of a presenter for the evening.</p> <p>On the application forms there needs to be more emphasis on nominations. People/businesses can nominate others for the awards.</p> <p>SB suggested Alistair McCall who is CE of Business Link North East. There are also 4 or 5 large organisations on the BL board who could be contacted.</p>	<p>LR/JR</p>
<p>6) Timetable</p> <p>With regards to the launch could the main sponsor(s) have PR same day as us?</p> <p>Judging criteria – meet 9th March to discuss this. The launch being early April.</p> <p>Application form & judging criteria – July - have one official date as mid July and actual one being the end of July.</p>	<p>ALL ENE</p>
<p>7) AOB</p> <p>It was agreed that another meeting would be held to determine criteria and application forms. The application forms will then be sent to all SG members for them to check prior to the launch.</p> <p>Suggestions for criteria for group to consider before meeting were: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The criteria needs to reflect impact and outcomes well as processes. If an organisation has a diverse workforce then how did they go about doing this? • Can we link to the E&D Board or use their strategy – priority and procurement. Could be possibly large organisations that relate to this. • Smaller organisations could be judged on the processes & policies, with a specific section for this in the application form? • There needs to be different criteria for different categories in the application forms. 	
<p>8) Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting 9th March 10am, ENE offices, Birtley with lunch.</p>	