

25 February 2010



Stirling Council wins national environmental award

Stirling Council scooped a top environmental award at the annual *Scottish People & Places* conference dinner and awards ceremony last night, Wednesday 24th February, at The Macdonald Marine Hotel, North Berwick.

Winning the Best Local Environmental Quality Innovation Award, Stirling Council representatives were presented with an award trophy and a framed certificate by Provost of East Lothian, Councillor Sheena Richardson and John Summers OBE, Chief Executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, who hosted the award ceremony.

The Best Local Environmental Quality Innovation Award rewards local authorities that have developed new ideas and initiatives to tackle a local environmental quality issue, such as littering, graffiti or dog fouling, to improve and enhance an area as part of the *People and Places* programme run by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

Stirling Council invented and delivered a programme called Community Local Environmental Audit and Management System (LEAMS), based on a national cleanliness survey co-ordinated by Keep Scotland Beautiful.

To assist with service planning and to engage with the people living in the Stirling area, Community LEAMS was developed. Taking in 20% of streets, surveys were carried out quarterly and information fed back to community councils. Urgent action was also taken in areas where lower than average scores were recorded, directing cleansing services to where they were most needed.

More...

The *People and Places* award ceremony and conference dinner is the highlight of a two-day event run by Keep Scotland Beautiful, which this year focused on reducing anti-social behaviour for a safer, cleaner and greener Scotland.

John Summers OBE, Chief Executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, said: "The Best Local Environmental Quality Innovation Award has been presented to Stirling Council for the innovative approach taken to involve communities in combating litter.

"The council was also a deserving finalist in this category too with an award submission on their work to raise awareness of the powers which staff have to issue £50 fixed penalty notices to those who litter as part of a Litter Action Day."

Stirling Council's Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Environment Councillor Jim Thomson said: "Stirling Council is delighted to have had two finalists in the Keep Scotland Beautiful People and Places Awards, Best Local Environmental Quality Innovation category. Congratulations to our Land Services team for their winning innovative approach to provide each community with a true picture of cleanliness in their area, this in turn helps us to target resources in areas of most need.

"And I would also like to commend our Land Services team for achieving finalist status in the same category with their 'Litter Day of Action' - an excellent example of how working with our partner organisations sends out a clear message that we all take littering seriously and people need to take responsibility for their actions or face being issued with a fixed penalty fine."

The *People and Places* Programme supports the delivery of high quality local environments and the awards recognise the contribution that partners have made in achieving this. Reflecting the challenges facing local authorities and the contribution that they have made in the past year, the four award categories were:

- Programme of the Year Award
- Programme Manager of the Year Award

- Award for Support of Communities
- Best Local Environmental Quality Innovation Award

Ends

For further information visit <http://news.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/PeopleandPlaces.asp> or contact Suzanne Roberts on 01786 468236 / 07841 369 430 or e-mail suzanne.roberts@ksbscotland.org.uk

Notes for Editors

- Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) is an environmental charity which aims to protect, preserve and enhance the environment of town and country in Scotland for the benefit of the public. Keep Scotland Beautiful administers the People and Places, Blue Flag and Seaside Award, and the Eco-Schools environmental programmes along with the Sustainable Scotland Network, Climate Challenge Fund and Going Carbon Neutral Stirling campaigns. Keep Scotland Beautiful also delivers some activities of Zero Waste Scotland.
- *People and Places* is an innovative programme that supports the delivery of high quality local environments for residents, businesses and visitors through modules, training and campaigns. The programme was launched in 1989 and offers a wide range of schemes from short-term campaigns to long term changes in management procedures. The *People and Places* programme is particularly useful to local authorities, registered social landlords and large landowners that may need advice on solving local environmental problems. Further information can be found at: www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/peopleandplaces
- For information about Keep Scotland Beautiful's other programmes please visit www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org
- The fifth annual People & Places conference will take place at The Macdonald Marine Hotel, North Berwick, East Lothian on Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 February 2010.
- The award winners for 2010 were:
 - Programme of the Year Award**
Winner – Renfrewshire Council
 - Programme Manager of the Year Award**
Winner – Brendan Corish, Amey
 - Award for Support of Communities**
Winner – Falkirk Council
 - Best Local Environmental Quality Innovation Award**
Winner – Stirling Council