

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1 September 2008

Local Government Chronicle Awards 2009

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the new category of 'Standards and Ethics' in the Local Government Chronicle Awards 2009.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Each year, the Local Government Chronicle magazine runs the LGC Awards, which cover many different categories, to "celebrate and reward every aspect of local government."

3.0 LGC AWARDS 2009

- 3.1 For the 2009 Awards, a new category entitled 'Standards and Ethics' has been created and is supported and sponsored by the Standards Board.

- 3.2 The Standards Board Press Office, via the Board's website, says:

"The judges will be looking for an authority, of any size or status, which has a dynamic and innovative approach to improving and promoting standards of member conduct. They will also want to see evidence of how the winning authority's commitment to promoting ethical standards has improved public confidence in local democracy.

...This new category reflects the importance of high ethical standards to the success of local government. We want to celebrate the hard work and commitment of authorities who put standards at the heart of their culture and at the core of their governance.

Entering the Standards and Ethics award is a great opportunity for authorities to raise the profile of their standards committee among their own members and officers as well as their peers in other authorities nationwide. Reaching the final shortlist, or better still, winning the award will also mean that your authority's standards have been judged to be among the best in the country - a powerful, positive message to send to your local community."

- 3.3 Entries are accepted from 10 July 2008. The closing date for entries is 3 October 2008.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Members may well feel that the County Council has a good story to tell in terms of its standards history and its proactive approach to the implementation of the ethical framework since the inception of the regime.

- 4.2 Members are therefore recommended to support the submission of an entry by officers for the LGC Awards in the category of 'Standards and Ethics'. Members will, of course, be informed of the outcome.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That Members support a submission for the LGC Awards in the category of 'Standards and Ethics'.

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Background Documents

Information regarding the Awards process available via the Standards Board's website at

www.standardsboard.gov.uk

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