

From: Communications
Sent: 19 April 2011 11:06
To: Everyone; All-Staff
Subject: Message from Chief Executive

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April 2011



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Visits to Council services

The Council has been as busy as ever over the last month. I have been focused to a large extent on the tram project as well as on arrangements for the Scottish Parliamentary Elections and the UK Referendum on the Alternative Vote on 5 May. At the end of March I had a very worthwhile visit to Bankhead Roads Depot and the neighbouring Community Recycling Centre with Councillor Dawe and Mark Turley, Director of Services for Communities. This was followed by a visit last week to Chesser House. Additionally, I have been involved in a wide range of discussions with the business sector in Edinburgh.

It has been a priority for me to meet staff involved in the wide variety of services we provide. The people I have met so far have been highly knowledgeable and enthusiastic about their work and it is enormously encouraging to me to know that I can rely on such a professional and committed workforce. This is all the more impressive at a time when we are in an environment of change in the public sector.

The engaging discussions we had with staff at Chesser House meant that we didn't manage to complete our tour of the building and unfortunately we were unable to get round all the services based there. I certainly intend getting back when I can to meet those I missed. My office is now also scheduling visits for the period after the election when I hope to meet staff in some of our Children and Families facilities.

Staff Awards 2011

The next round of Staff Awards for Excellence is being launched on 27 April. I understand these have been well supported in the past with well deserved winners again demonstrating the wide range of services and projects that staff are involved in.

The Awards wouldn't exist without the support of our sponsors. Once again the Council's IT partners, BT, are the main sponsor and Matic Media and IMPOWER have already been confirmed as sponsors of individual categories. Work is ongoing to ensure that the rest of the costs are met through sponsorship.

Nominations will close on 3 June with the Awards ceremony being held on 14 October. If you are aware of outstanding work by a colleague or colleagues and value their contribution, please nominate them for a Staff Award. Information on how to do this will be available on the Orb from 27 April. If you don't have access to the Orb then you can speak to your line manager about making a nomination or call 529 4425 for more information.

The Awards are designed to recognise the exceptional commitment and skills of many members of staff. From what I've seen so far, there should be no shortage of nominations.

Best wishes

SUE BRUCE

