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LOCAL COURT BAILIFF MANAGER WINS TOP NATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

The outstanding work of Martin (Andy) Andrews, Bailiff Manager at Grimsby Combined Court Centre has been recognised at the first Her Majesty's Courts Service National Awards ceremony in Birmingham today.

Andy won the individual award for community engagement and was selected by Lord Falconer, the Lord Chancellor to be the overall National Award winner.

He won the award for actively taking the initiative to engage with solicitors, local councils and housing associations. He also set up a number of advice surgeries in local libraries. Notably he organised an event at a local college to provide greater awareness of the consequences of getting into debt. This event was aimed at students at the college and was run with the co-operation and involvement of the Assistant Official Receiver, the Citizen's Advice Bureau and a member of staff from the Court.

Lord Falconer, the Lord Chancellor said:

"Courts play a vital role in our criminal justice system. I very much welcome the opportunity to recognise and congratulate the hard work and dedication of people like Andy. People who work tirelessly to ensure that the justice is served and that the courts enforce the law – criminal, civil and family – effectively."

Dyfed Foulkes, Area Director said:

“This is a fantastic achievement. Andy fully deserves the recognition and accolade that these awards represent. Andy has taken the initiative in providing a service beyond the doors of the court and in the local community where it can make a real difference.”

NOTE

Her Majesty's Courts Service brought together, on 1st April 2005, 42 independent magistrates' courts committees and the Court Service into one single organisation for the first time. It is an executive agency of the Department for Constitutional Affairs (DCA). Its purpose is to deliver justice effectively and efficiently to the public. It is responsible for the management of the civil, family and criminal courts in England and Wales.