

01/06

4th April 2006

LOCAL COURT STAFF WIN NATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

The outstanding work of staff in the Dyfed Powys Area has been recognised at the first Her Majesty's Courts Service National Awards ceremony in Birmingham on Tuesday 28th March 2006.

Rhian Davies Rees, Head of Operations & Performance; Ann Beaumont, Judicial Liaison Manager; Amanda Williams, Area Customer Service & Communication Manager and Nichola Gilman, Area Performance Officer, won the team award for community engagement.

The team organised and helped deliver a series of successful open days in October 2005 at various court houses across the Dyfed Powys Area within Inside Justice Week. Thanks have to go to the many more people who were instrumental in the success of these days such as the administrative staff, legal advisors and magistrates. Also to the Communications Officer at the Local Criminal Justice Board and the numerous other criminal justice agencies who were involved. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, indicating that members of the public found the events useful and informative, giving them a greater understanding of the workings of the Criminal Justice System.

Luigi Strinati the Area Director said:

"I am delighted that the team won this award and offer my congratulations and thanks to all the staff and stakeholders that were involved in each of the open days.

All who attended the events, whether ordinary members of the public, regular court users or schoolchildren seemed genuinely engrossed in what was available for them to see and listen to. This can only be of benefit as we progress with HMCS and sends out a clear message to all that we are a vibrant forward thinking organisation, committed to improving services and interested in the views and needs of our local community.”

Sir Ron De Witt, HMCS Chief Executive Officer, said:

“I am delighted to reward the hard work of the team. This honour marks HMCS’ first anniversary. From my visits to courts, I have come away with a real and abiding impression that everything we do is for the public – the victim, witness, juror, defendant and plaintiff – they come first. Building the service around their needs is what defines us and establishes our reputation.”

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.