



PRESS RELEASE

FORCE SCOOP AWARDS

The first Scottish Policing Awards were held at the Scottish Police College on Tuesday 20th October 2009, and Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary won two of the awards.

The Awards were first proposed by the Scottish Government to recognise the work undertaken by the police service in Scotland and its partner agencies which contributes to the Government's strategic objectives. The Awards recognise and celebrate work undertaken by police officers and staff, and the contributions made towards the Scottish Government's five national strategic objectives of 'Wealthier and Fairer', 'Healthier', 'Safer and Stronger' and 'Smarter and Greener'.

The Awards were split into four categories:-

- Service Response
- Public Reassurance and Community Safety
- Criminal Justice and Tackling Crime
- Sound Governance and Efficiency

Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary won the two awards under the Public Reassurance and Community Safety Category, in which the key objectives for the award were to:

- Support the delivery of safer communities
- Preserve and restore public order
- Investigate crime effectively
- Contribute to the reduction of crime
- Contribute to increase public reassurance

The first Award was given for the 'School Leaver Memory Stick Project'. This project allows the police and partner agencies to share information, advice and guidance on a wide range of subject and topics, targeting a relevant and important section of the community in a format that is easy to access, is convenient and user friendly. This Award came into the Commended section.

The second Award received an Outstanding Contribution Award, and was the 'Young Drivers Project'. This project created a first class opportunity for the local police to work in

conjunction with partner agencies and young drivers to support and provide road safety education and guidance.

Chief Constable Patrick Shearer of the force said he “was delighted with the awards which are a fitting reward for all the hard work put into the projects by police officers and partners alike. The real benefits of these projects though will hopefully be felt across the communities of Dumfries and Galloway”.

The Awards to the force were presented by Kenny MacAskill, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, who said “These policing awards highlight many examples of how our police officers and staff across Scotland work tirelessly to serve their communities. The excellent service they provide is clear in the recent crime stats which show crime at its lowest level for nearly 30 years.

I congratulate Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary on their success which recognises the work going on by the force to tackle crime and reassure members of the community.

“The Scottish Government is committed to providing our police forces with the resources to make our communities safer and stronger and that is what we are doing with record numbers of officers serving our communities.

“By working in partnership we can continue to deliver effective policing for the people of Scotland.”

Graeme Wellburn
0513
26.10.09

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