

PRESS RELEASE

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**SCOTLAND'S COLLEGES REWARDS INNOVATION AT ANNUAL AWARDS**

Scotland's Colleges congratulated the innovative practices and outstanding achievements of its member colleges this year at its annual awards ceremony held in Dunblane last night.

Scotland's Colleges annual awards recognise the success and innovation of individual colleges, and are designed to promote best practice as well as inspire partnership, collaboration and engagement across the further education sector.

Sixteen colleges from throughout Scotland were shortlisted for awards across eight categories. Scotland's Colleges received over 100 entries this year and 24 colleges were shortlisted for the awards, with winners announced on the night. Categories included: Governance; Professional Learning and Enhancement; Partnership Working; International; Learner Engagement; Public Value; Equality and Diversity and the Student Award.

In addition, Sir John Elvidge, former Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government, was given the Scotland's Colleges' Fellowship. The Fellowship is awarded to individuals who have made a distinguished contribution to the work of colleges in Scotland and their learners.

Ray Harris, Chief Executive of Scotland's Colleges, commented: "These Annual Awards are an opportunity to recognise the strengths of colleges across Scotland and the ways in which our sector is continuously striving to further improve the learning experience of our students.

"Colleges face challenging times ahead but have already proved that they are capable of developing innovative and productive partnerships to deliver results both locally and nationally in difficult economic circumstances. We congratulate colleges from across Scotland for their commitment to improving the learner experience, and for their flexible approach to delivering the very best for their communities.

"Scotland's Colleges is also delighted to award Sir John Elvidge with the Scotland's Colleges' Fellowship. Sir John has been an avid supporter of the work of colleges, has promoted the value of colleges far and wide and we are grateful to have such a strong advocate for the further education sector."

The full list of winners and shortlisted colleges is below. Please do get in touch should you require further information. Details of each winning entry are available on request.

For more information on Scotland College's Award Ceremony and a full list of shortlisted entrants please visit [www.scotlandscolleges.ac.uk](http://www.scotlandscolleges.ac.uk) or call 01786 892 000.

## **Notes to Editor**

Full list of Finalists and Commended entries

### **Equality and Diversity**

Winner: Kilmarnock College, Gender Based Violence programme

Highly Commended: Angus College

Commended: Dundee College

### **Governance**

Winner: Angus College

Highly Commended: Inverness College UHI

Commended: Perth College

Shortlisted: Inverness College UHI, Perth College

### **Learner Engagement**

Winner: Edinburgh Telford College

Highly Commended: Clydebank College

Commended: Borders College

### **Partnership Working**

Winner: Ayr College

Highly Commended: Dumfries and Galloway College

Commended: Elmwood College

### **Professional Learning and Enhancement**

Winner: Angus College

Highly Commended: Langside College

Commended: Clydebank College

### **Public Value**

Winner: James Watt College

Highly Commended: Elmwood College

Commended: Perth College

### **Student Award**

Winner: Stevenson College

Highly Commended: Oatridge College

Commended: Clydebank College

### **International**

Jointly Commended: City of Glasgow College, Dundee College, Perth College

### **Sir John Elvidge Biography**

Sir John Elvidge was Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government from July 2003 until June 2010, following periods as Head of the Scottish Executive Education Department (1999-

2002) and of the Scottish Executive Finance and Corporate Services Department (2002-03). His career in the Civil Service spanned 37 years and was spent almost wholly in Scotland, apart from a period in the Cabinet Secretariat for the UK Government in 1998-99.

His career experience has covered most aspects of social and economic policy and he has a strong personal interest in the importance of education and training in assisting people to take greater control of their life chances. He was born in London and educated at a state comprehensive school and Oxford University. He was knighted in 2006 and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2009.

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