



*Excellence in  
Local Government*

RECOGNISING  
EXCELLENCE  
AND VISION

THE BEACON AWARDS  
CEREMONY AND  
GALA DINNER

20 March 2007  
Royal Horticultural Halls  
Victoria, London

## JOIN US IN CELEBRATING SUCCESS AND EXCELLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

The Beacon Awards Ceremony represents the highlight of the Beacon year. This high-profile event recognises local authorities' clear vision, outstanding achievement and service excellence.

This year, the Beacon Awards Ceremony will gain an even more prestigious status, with a senior government representative invited to reveal the winning authorities on the night.

Senior government representatives and key personnel from local authorities – including, for the first time, all short listed authorities – are going to be amongst the 600 guests attending this special evening in central London, solely dedicated to rewarding and sharing the success achieved by Beacons for the difference they are making in their communities.



Beacon authority receiving award

Participating guests will have the opportunity to:

- celebrate as a team the benefits brought to the communities they serve
- network with other authorities and share best practice
- gain inspirational and practical advice
- meet senior government representatives with team photo opportunities
- learn what lies ahead in the Beacon year

This high-status event also presents the ideal occasion for motivating and rewarding teams and individuals for their efforts in delivering outstanding services to their local communities.

The impressive wealth of networking and team sharing opportunities coupled with welcome cocktails, three course gala dinner and on stage entertainment, makes the Beacon Awards Ceremony a must-attend event for best value authorities.

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Participating in and achieving Beacon status has brought many advantages to Lewisham. It has contributed to the raising of staff morale, boosted the profile of services and made a significant contribution towards Lewisham's reputation as strong local authority. Our view is that the Beacon Scheme has been an important improvement lever in raising standards and promoting coherent outcome focused service delivery.

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**Steve Bullock, Mayor,  
London Borough of Lewisham**



The Royal Horticultural Halls

# ABOUT THE BEACON SCHEME

The Beacon Scheme is unique in local government. It exists to recognise and reward excellent and innovative performance by best value authorities and help to share good practice experiences so that others can learn and improve.



Meet the Minister session

Best value authorities play a key role in ensuring local people enjoy the best possible quality of life. Everything authorities do impacts on the people living within their borders, from collecting rubbish to putting out fires to looking after the more vulnerable members of society. The goal for all authorities must therefore be to provide the best possible customer-focused services for everybody in the most efficient and effective way.



Minister photographed with winning authority

The Beacon Scheme was set up to help all authorities to achieve high standards across the full range of services. The Scheme aims to raise standards by promoting best practice and providing opportunities for authorities to aspire to be the best and to work together to share best practice.

In this eight year of the Scheme, ministers selected a variety of service areas as Beacon themes relevant to the issues that authorities are tackling on a daily basis:

**Theme 1:** Delivering Cleaner Air

**Theme 2:** Electoral Services

**Theme 3:** Emergency Planning

**Theme 4:** Healthy Schools

**Theme 5:** Increasing Voluntary and Community Sector Service Delivery

**Theme 6:** Neighbourhood and Community Champions:  
The Role of Elected Members

**Theme 7:** Preventing and Tackling Anti-social Behaviour

**Theme 8:** Promoting Financial Inclusion and Tackling  
Over-indebtedness

**Theme 9:** Promoting Sustainable Communities Through the  
Planning Process

**Theme 10:** School Improvement

Once the awards are made for each of the themes, Beacons will work with the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) and with each other to develop a co-ordinated programme of theme-specific learning events and peer-support activities.

**Research shows that all of this activity does have an impact. Seventy nine per cent of those authorities attending events instigated improvements as a result of their participation.**



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## RESERVE YOUR PLACE AT THE BEACON AWARDS CEREMONY AND GALA DINNER

20 March 2007,  
Royal Horticultural Halls,  
London Victoria

The Beacon Awards Ceremony is a unique opportunity for you and your team to network with other best value authorities and be inspired by outstanding success and achievement.

The Beacon Awards Ceremony tickets cost £75 (+ VAT) per person and include entry to the awards ceremony, cocktail reception, three course dinner and on stage entertainment.

Short listed organisations are eligible for three free places at the event.



The Royal Horticultural Halls

### **RESERVATIONS:**

To reserve places at this prestigious event, please book on-line by visiting

**[www.beaconawards.org.uk](http://www.beaconawards.org.uk)**

Tables seat 10 persons.

### **Payment:**

To facilitate payment, an invoice will be issued on receipt of the booking. Alternatively, credit card payments can be accepted by calling 01772 767765.

### **Accommodation:**

For information and bookings please visit

**[www.beaconawards.org.uk](http://www.beaconawards.org.uk)**

### **Venue:**

For information and directions please visit

**[www.horticultural-halls.co.uk](http://www.horticultural-halls.co.uk)**

### **Event details and timings:**

Welcome cocktail reception from 18:30

Awards ceremony from 19:30.

For more information please call the event helpline on 01772 767765.