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Our Awards

Corporate Awards

The MJ Achievement Awards 2014 - June 2014

The Council won the Best Achieving Council category at the MJ Achievement Awards 2014.

The Council won for achieving strong and strengthening in-house services, with a core focus on inward investment and growth in the city.

The Council is in a solid financial position and is investing in critical initiatives to meet housing needs and build a stronger local economy and a safer and more active community.

The Council was also commended in the Workforce Transformation category.

Investors In People Gold - July 2014

The City Council has joined an elite group of organisations across the UK by achieving the Investors in People Gold standard.

Only 7 per cent of accredited organisations have attained the gold standard for their commitment to realising staff potential and understanding that it is good people who make great business.

Living Wage Accreditation for Oxford - October 2012

Oxford City Council was awarded Living Wage Accreditation by the national Living Wage Foundation.

The Living Wage for a city or region is based on an assessment of the real costs of living in that area, rather than the floor tariffs established by the National Minimum Wage.

The Council adopted a Living Wage policy in 2009 for its own employees and for contractors who work for the Council. The Living Wage sets the minimum hourly rate of pay for Council staff.

Investors in People (IIP) Accreditation - June 2011

The Council achieved recognition as an Investor in People organisation, and in doing so made the Council a better place to work.

This award recognises our good work in communicating with our employees, driving improvement, delivering results and our focus on developing our staff. We are aiming for IIP Gold in May 2014.





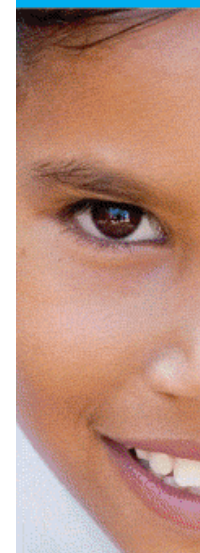

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Cleaner, Greener Oxford

Public Sector Sustainability Awards 2014 - November 2014

We picked up the award for the Most Sustainable Public Sector Organisation in the Local Authority category at the Public Sector Sustainability Awards in London.

This was the most hotly contested category according to the organisers, and we were delighted to have won. Our nomination was based on the whole breadth of work we have done around renewables, energy efficiency, waste reduction, people engagement, transport, Low Carbon Oxford and OxFutures.

Green Apple Environment Awards - November 2014

We won the Silver Green Apple Award in the Local Authority category for our work on reducing carbon mainly due to our Direct Services team gaining and maintaining ISO 14401 accreditation.

This was presented on Monday 10 November 2014 at the Houses of Parliament.

The Green Apple Awards campaign was one of the first to be accepted by Britain's RSA Environmental Awards Forum as meeting the high standards and criteria to be approved as an automatic conduit into the Brussels-led European Business Awards for the Environment.

Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC) Celebration Awards 2014 - October 2014

The Council won the Recycling Officer of the Year category and were finalists in the Team of the Year category at the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC) awards 2014.

Now in its fourth year, the awards ceremony recognise the achievements and hard work of local authority recycling officers and their colleagues over the past year.

Thames and Chilterns in Bloom Awards 2014 - September 2014

Oxford won a Gold Award in the City category at the Thames and Chilterns in Bloom Association awards 2014.

It also won the overall award for the City category at the awards.

The annual Britain in Bloom campaign is the largest horticultural event in Europe and attracts over 2,000 entries from cities, towns and villages across Britain. The main aim of the campaign is to encourage and celebrate local communities improving their local environments.

UK Community Energy Awards 2014 - September 2014

The Council was awarded Local Authority Partner of the Year at the UK Community Energy Awards 2014.

The award was for local authorities which go the extra mile to help local, community energy organisations through partnering and investing in community energy organisations.



Green Flag Awards - July 2014

Five of Oxford's parks were awarded Green Flag status for the second year running. Blackbird Leys, Cutteslowe & Sunnymead, Hinksey, Florence and Bury Knowle parks have all retained this prestigious award following this year's re-assessments.

The Green Flag Award was founded in 1996 as a way of recognising the best green spaces throughout the country. It has now come to be the international standard for parks and green spaces in Europe.

The award also helps the public to strive for high environmental standards, creating an area of natural beauty in recreational spaces.

Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) Thames Valley Awards - June 2014

The Council was part of a partnership that won the

Environmental Engineering and Sustainability award for the Kennington Road Flood Alleviation works in Oxford.

The team behind that winning project were Optimise (Water) LLP, Thames Water, the Environment Agency, Network Rail, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxford City Council, and the Vale of the White Horse District Council.



Green Fleet of the year Award Nomination - February 2014

Oxford City Council was shortlisted for the Fleet News 'Green Fleet of the Year Award'.

The Fleet News Awards recognise the best people, companies and vehicles in the fleet industry.

The Green Fleet of the Year award rewards forward looking fleets that have introduced initiatives to reduce their CO2 emissions year-on-year, delivering financial and environmental benefits.



Association of Public Sector Excellence (APSE) Award - December 2013

Oxford City Council won the prestigious Association of Public Sector Excellence (APSE) award for Most Improved Performer in the Refuse Collection category.

Oxford City Council were shortlisted in seven categories for the awards where the best performing and most improved local authorities are awarded for their achievements.



The teams nominated were: Building Maintenance (Best Performer), Cemetery and Crematorium Services (Best Performer), Parks, Open Spaces & Horticultural Services (Most Improved Performer), Refuse Collection (Best Performer and Most Improved Performer), Street Cleansing (Best Performer) and Transport Operations & Vehicle Maintenance (Best Performer).

Thames and Chiltern in Bloom 2013 Regional Awards - September 2013

Oxford won the City category at the Thames and Chiltern in Bloom 2013 Regional Awards.

Oxford won their category with a Silver Gilt and improved their score by 10 points from last year, beating off competition from Reading.

Silver Gilt is awarded to a high standard entry, which meets virtually all of the judging criteria and exemplifies best practice in multiple areas.



Loo of the Year Awards 2013

Oxford City Council made it into the top ten for the best local authority toilets in the country, as announced at the 2013 Loo of the Year Awards.

Fleet Hero Award Runner Up - December 2013

Oxford City Council was awarded runner up in the Plugged-In Fleets category of the 2013 Energy Saving Trust Fleet Hero awards.

The Fleet Hero Awards celebrate public and private organisations that are successfully reducing fuel bills and lowering their own travel-related carbon emissions.

British Water and Wastewater Industries Awards - November 2013

The Oxford Area Flood Partnership and contractors Optimise have been highly commended at a prestigious Society of British Water and Wastewater Industries Awards for delivering a complex project that reduces the risk of flooding in the Kennington Road area of Oxford.

Twenty properties suffered from the misery of repeated internal flooding; many more properties, over a wide area, were at risk of flooding and a main road and rail line into Oxford also flooded.

The Partnership involved Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council, The Vale of White Horse District Council, The Environment Agency, Network Rail and Thames Water. Construction work started in earnest in April 2013 and finished two months ahead of schedule at the end of August 2013.

Green Flag Awards for 5 Oxford parks - July 2013

Blackbird Leys Park has become the fifth park in the city to receive a Green Flag Award. The park now joins Cutteslowe & Sunnymead, Hinksey, Florence and Bury Knowle parks that have all retained this prestigious award following this year's re-assessments.



The Green Flag Award was founded in 1996 as a way of recognising the best green spaces throughout the country. It has now come to be the international standard for parks and green spaces in Europe.

The award also helps the public to strive for high environmental standards, creating an area of natural beauty in recreational spaces.

Oxford ReFashion event wins Green Apple Award - September 2012

Oxford City Council's ReFashion event has won a Green Apple Environment Award in the national campaign to find Britain's greenest companies, councils and communities.



The popular fashion event in January received over 700 visitors and was acknowledged as a highly innovative, fun and inclusive way of highlighting textile re-use and recycling options and the need to reduce textile waste sent to landfill.

Association for Public Service Excellence Nomination - August 2012

The Streetscene team have been shortlisted by the Association for Public Service Excellence for the Best Service Team Street Cleaning and Streetscene category.



It means that the team are rated in the top six authorities in the whole of Great Britain and in the top three in England.

Green flag status for four Oxford Parks - July 2012

Cutteslowe and Sunnymead Park, Hinksey Park and Florence Park have retained their Green Flag status for the fifth year in a row.



Bury Knowle Park has retained its Green Flag status for the second year running.

The achievement means that these parks are among the best parks and green spaces in the country.

The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales and recognises and rewards the best green spaces in the country.

Efficient Effective Council

Best Web Experience Award - November 2014

Our Business Improvement & Technology Team won an award from Kana (providers of the Council's Lagan CRM software) in the category of Best Web Experience.

This is a multinational competition that includes both private and public sector users of Lagan CRM.

Council Shortlisted for Living Wage Champion award - October 2014

Oxford City Council was shortlisted for the Living Wage Champion 2014 award for South East England.

Run by the Living Wage Foundation, the awards recognise employers that have made great contributions to communities and industries by implementing and celebrating the Living Wage.

Customer Service Excellence Re-accreditation - June 2014

Customer Service Excellence is a standard used to make improvements within organisations based on customer feedback and understanding the users experience in order to improve the service given.

It gives us national recognition showing that we put customers at the heart of what we do.

The Customer Contact Team met all the requirements in the assessment as well as two additional 'Compliance Plus' best practice standards.

Institute of Rating, Revenues and Valuation Awards - October 2014

Oxford City Council was nominated for 4 awards at the Institute of Rating, Revenues and Valuation awards which took place on 7 October 2014 in the following categories:

- Benefits Team for Most Improved Team of the Year
- Excellence in Social Inclusion
- Excellence In Partnership Working (Public)
- Excellence in Staff Development

The Council won the Excellence in Partnership Working award, got a silver in the Excellence in Staff Development category and a bronze in the Most Improved Team of the Year award.

2014 Local Government Chronicle Awards Nominations - January 2014

Oxford City Council was selected as a finalist in the two categories at the 2014 Local Government Chronicle Awards.

The Investigation Team and the Welfare Reform team were both shortlisted in two separate categories for the awards.

The Investigation Team was shortlisted for the Tackling Fraud Award.

The Welfare Reform Team was shortlisted with their entry Universal Credit LA Led Pilot for the Team of the Year Award.

GeoPlace Exemplar Awards 2013

Oxford City Council was a runner up of the 2014 GeoPlace Exemplar Awards, showcasing the innovation and value local authorities deliver in managing and using their address and street information.

Customer Service Excellence Standard - July 2013

Oxford City Council's Customer Contact Team, which is responsible for resolving over 90% of all council enquiries that come into our two face-to-face customer service centres and our telephone contact centre, received the Customer Service Excellence Standard.

Customer Service Excellence is a standard used to make improvements within organisations based on customer feedback and understanding the users experience in order to improve the service given.



National Payroll Awards Team of the Year - October 2012

The Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals (CIPP) held the the 28th Annual Payroll and Pensions Conference and Exhibition on 4 and 5 October 2012 at the Celtic Manor Resort in Wales. At the event, the biggest for the industry, the CIPP hold their Annual Payroll and Pensions Awards, acknowledging payroll and pensions professionals for their achievements over the last 12 months.

Individuals, employers and software providers are invited to submit entries in a number of categories, and from these a panel of 10 judges draw up a shortlist of entries. In front of over 400 fellow professionals the Council's payroll team were awarded the 2012 'Team of the Year' award.

Lexcel accreditation for Legal Services Team - November 2011

Oxford City Council's Legal Services team has passed its annual Lexcel accreditation - the Law Society's practice management standard.



The standard assesses client care and file and practice management. The same standards apply for all legal practices and firms, whether in the private or public sector.

Payroll Quality Partnership (PQP) accreditation

Our Payroll Team have achieved Payroll Quality Partnership (PQP) accreditation. This is a nationally recognised standards-based quality accreditation from the Chartered Institute of Payroll Professionals.



The accreditation is designed to help organisations get the most benefit from their payroll function by encouraging them to maintain professional competence while enhancing and developing payroll skills and knowledge. This in turn enables payroll professionals to provide their customers with the highest level of value and service possible through effective payroll learning and development.

The PQP is valid for a period of two years.

Parks Service BM TRADA Accredited - March 2011

Getting BM TRADA accreditation demonstrates that the management system in our Parks Service meets the requirements of a given standard.



ISO 9001:2008 specifies requirements for a quality management system where an organization:

- needs to demonstrate its ability to consistently provide product that meets customer and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, and
- aims to enhance customer satisfaction through the effective application of the system, including processes for continual improvement of the system and the assurance of conformity to customer and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

Improvement and Efficiency Awards 2013

Oxford City Council won a number of awards in three different categories in the Improvement and Efficiency Awards: Working Together (Gold Award) and three Bronze Awards in Transformation in Waste and Environment, Delivering Through Efficiency and Working together.

Strong Active Communities

Association for Public Service Excellence Awards - September 2014

The Council was nominated in six categories in the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) awards 2014 and won the Best Service Team Sports, Leisure & Culture category and Best



Service Team Transport & Fleet category.

The awards recognise the very best in local government frontline services, with councils throughout the UK recognised for their achievements in delivering excellence in frontline service.

Big Car Project wins national award - April 2011

A team from Oxford Adult Learners received a national award from ASDAN on 28 April at a celebration event, in recognition of their project to build a large model MINI car.



Neil Stevenson, our Community Engagement Partnership Officer worked with the team, who researched the history of the Cowley car factory, to help them create the model. The model car was a highlight of the 2010 Christmas Light Night parade and has exhibited in the Museum of Oxford and the Town Hall gallery.

Meeting Housing Need

Planning Awards - November 2014

Barton Park, the planned neighbourhood to the north east of Oxford, won the award for 'Planning for Housing Growth' at the 2014 Planning Awards.

The judges were impressed by excellent partnership between private and public sectors to enable growth, and to create a garden city suburb in Oxford.

The development, which is being delivered by Barton Oxford LLP, a joint venture by Oxford City Council and Grosvenor Development Limited, will provide up to 885 new homes, a food store, primary school and new community facilities including a linear park.

Placemaking Award - February 2014

Planners at Oxford City Council have won the Development Management Award at the inaugural Placemaking Awards.

The award recognises an authority which has clearly demonstrated how outstanding development management has been used to improve the physical or environmental quality of a place or the economic or social well-being of its community, or to create excellent prospects of such improvement.



Oxford City Council's nomination related to the way in which the service had delivered much needed housing, in particular affordable housing over the last year which culminated with 'Super September' where planning permissions were secured for 1204 homes, 614 of which were affordable.

Strong Vibrant Economy

Oxford awarded Purple Flag - November 2011

Oxford city centre has been awarded the prestigious Purple Flag for the quality of the evening and night time activities that are offered,



and the cooperation between the Council, the police and the establishments which provide entertainment of many different types in managing the central area.

The Purple Flag award means that Oxford city centre has been nationally recognised as offering an excellent night-time economy, only one of six towns and cities to be recognised with this honour.

The scheme assesses each areas crime rates, hygiene standards and a range of visitor attractions.

National recognition for the Council - October 2013

Oxford City Council received three awards for their work in the community.

Our Welfare Reform Team achieved national recognition at the Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation (IRRV) Performance Awards for Excellence in Social Inclusion and Excellence in Innovation (Non IT). The awards recognise our team's work to mitigate the impacts of welfare reforms in Oxford residents.

Rob Walsh, from the Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team was awarded the Tim Winter award which is a national award for anti-social behaviour practitioners.

And Liz Jones, Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator received the John Latham Award from Thames Valley Police for her work on tackling domestic abuse in Oxford.

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