



PRCC.16 12/13
Prosperous Communities Committee
18 September 2012

D

WEST LINDSEY COMMUNITY AWARDS

Report by:	Rachel North, Director of Communities and Localism
Contact Officer:	Nicola Calver Governance and Civic Officer 01427 676606 nicola.calver@west-lindsey.gov.uk
Purpose / Summary:	This report sets out a proposal by the Community Awards Panel for honouring the people of the district with Community Awards as discussed at a previous meeting of Prosperous Communities Committee.

- RECOMMENDATION(S):**
- 1. That Members agree the Community Awards Panel’s recommendations for the format by which awards will be presented on behalf of the Council in 2012; and**
 - 2. That Members agree the Community Award Panel’s recommendations for the titles of the awards to be presented at the West Lindsey Community Awards 2012.**

IMPLICATIONS

Legal:
None arising from this report.

Financial :
All options set out within this report are within existing budgets and there are no proposals to spend additional funds.

Staffing :
None arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights : None arising from this report.
*NB: A full impact assessment **HAS TO BE** attached if the report relates to any new or revised policy or revision to service delivery/introduction of new services.*

Risk Assessment :
None arising from this report.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities :
None arising from this report.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
None

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

Yes

No

Key Decision:

Yes

No

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 At the meeting of the Prosperous Communities Committee on the 28th March 2012 a report was presented asking for agreement for a format to present community awards.

1.2 At that meeting the consensus was that:

- i) The introduction of any Community Awards Scheme should be delayed until 2012/13 and thus the proposals for a reduced Award Scheme during 2012 would be rejected.
- ii) That option 2 (A Community Awards Dinner) be not pursued further at this time in light of the current financial climate and the public perceptions; and
- iii) That the option of the presentation of such awards at a special Christmas meeting of full Council be the Committee's preferred choice and that this option be further explored.

and subsequently resolved that:

- a) A Member Panel comprising the four Councillors nominated by the committee, namely:

Councillor Gillian Bardsley
Councillor Jessie Milne
Councillor Lesley Rollings; and
Councillor Jeff Summers

Be established to work with the Chairman's Officer, in giving further consideration/further progressing all of those aspects, areas and suggestions raised by the committee in respect of the Community Awards Scheme; and

- b) A further report setting out the Member Panel's recommendations (referred to above) be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee, for further consideration and final approval.

1.3 This report sets out the proposals of the Members Panel.

2. COMMUNITY AWARDS PANEL

2.1 The Awards Panel have met on two occasions to review the discussions of the Prosperous Communities Committee and to analyse the awards proposed and discuss suggested formats for presentation.

2.2 A large factor that was considered was the cost of an awards ceremony and approximations of financing all suggestions were discussed.

- 2.3 The Panel were mindful that they wished to use an awards ceremony as an avenue to involve the community in local democracy, and therefore using a meeting of Full Council to host a ceremony was supported.
- 2.4 Each Council meeting was considered and Annual Council was ruled out due to it often being a lengthy meeting with other purposes. Christmas Council appeared to be the best option
- 2.5 The panel reviewed the proposed awards within the original report and agreed that
- a) there were too many to be manageable;
 - b) not all were tied in with the messages in our Corporate Plan; or
 - c) Were aimed at our communities.

3. PROPOSAL FROM THE PANEL

- 3.1 Therefore, taking into account the discussions at Prosperous Communities Committee and at the meetings of the Panel, the Panel's proposal for agreement is as follows:
- 3.1.1 To be held at the conclusion of Christmas Council on Monday 10 December 2012 in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall.
- 3.1.2 Awards to be presented:
- a) Citizen of the year (To be chosen from the winners of the Area Champion Awards)
 - b) Area Champion 2012 for:
 - Fosdyke
 - Caistor
 - Gainsborough
 - Market Rasen
 - Trent
 - Witham
 - c) Parish/Town Council of the year
 - d) Volunteer of the year
- 3.1.3 A nomination form stating the general criteria will be produced and a deadline for nominations set for at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
- 3.1.4 A communications plan for the awards will be devised, including informing all Members of West Lindsey District Council, Parish Councils, and specific community groups. The press will be approached and appropriate advertisement made.
- 3.1.5 The Panel will adjudicate the nominations on a set date in a fair and open procedure, against general criteria, which will be set at the time of nomination.

- 3.1.6 Award winners and two nominees for each award would be invited to the meeting of Christmas Council, but this date will have been publicised prior to ensure attendance.
- 3.1.7 Appropriate trophies, plaques and certificates will be purchased by which to honour the award winners. Best value on these items will be sought.
- 3.1.8 Following the ceremony refreshments will be provided for all in attendance and will have a Christmas theme.

4. FUTURE AWARDS

- 4.1 The Panel were mindful that we are an evolving Council and therefore the format for 2012 may not be as appropriate for 2013.
- 4.2 Therefore the success of the awards would be reviewed early 2013 and a further report submitted to the Prosperous Communities Committee with the proposal for awards in 2013.

5. DEBATE AND DECISIONS

- 5.1 Members are asked to consider the proposal of the Members Panel and agree a way forward for these important community honours.