

PRESS RELEASE

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Trust preparing to celebrate staff achievements at Annual Awards Ceremony

On the morning of Monday 5th October the Sandwell Mental Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust (1) will be holding its annual Staff Outstanding Achievement Awards Ceremony. The ceremony, now in its fourth year, will take place at Bethal Convention Centre, West Bromwich. The awards were established to celebrate the excellent work done by staff, and they provide a fun way to let individuals and teams know that their hard work throughout the year does not go unappreciated.

The 16 nominees this year come from a wide variety of areas. Whether they are a physiotherapist or a psychologist, working in catering or finance, working with children or older adults, they all have one thing in common: they go further than the extra mile to make tangible improvements to the services we provide and the lives of those who use our services.

To receive an award, a team or individual must be nominated by a fellow employee within the Trust. Awards can be won in the following categories:

- Innovation and Creativity
- 24-Hour Care Team of the Year
- Team of the Year
- Non-Clinical Support
- Manager of the Year
- Employee of the Year

Chairman Bob Piper, who will be presenting the awards with Chief Executive Karen Dowman, said "I always enjoy presenting staff with these awards; they allow us to show just how much everyone appreciates and recognises the work they undertake each day."

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

(1) Sandwell Mental Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust is the major provider of mental health and specialist health learning disabilities services to people of all ages in Sandwell

Sandwell spends £26.5m on Adult mental health services. This includes funding from the NHS (Sandwell PCT) and the local Council. Sandwell also spends about £8m on Older People's Mental Health services.

We offer a wide range of services - as well as inpatient psychiatric care and outpatient appointments with psychiatrists, we also have numerous teams that support people with mental health problems to live independently in the community, work in A&E and GP surgeries. In addition to our Adult and Older People's services, we also provide services for Children and Adolescents and people with Learning Disabilities.

We have had 287 admissions to our Adult psychiatric wards since January this year, and 116 to our Older People's psychiatric wards. On average, people stay in for about a month, but many people stay for considerably less time than that.

At any one time, our various Adult community teams will be caring for about 1600 people in their own homes.

Our psychiatrists undertake about 9000 outpatient appointments a year and our counselling service about 6500 sessions in GP practices.

Further Information:

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