

North West celebrates construction excellence



North West companies involved with development in the region were officially recognised at the 2009 North West Building Excellence Awards, held earlier this year at The De Vere Whites Hotel in Bolton

Improving the quality of construction is one of the most important challenges affecting the industry and over the last few years there have been real breakthroughs made in construction techniques, design and, most importantly, the vetting and approval of workmanship. As a result buildings are being built to higher and higher standards.

The 2009 LABC North West Building Excellence Awards recognise best practice in construction. The awards are the envy of the construction

industry as they objectively identify and reward those that achieve the highest standards in building construction across a wide range of categories. Involvement in the awards as a winner – or a finalist – brings widespread industry recognition and often opens the door to further work or commissions.

The North West awards attracted many of the region's building industry figureheads – including representatives of local government departments, senior partners of leading contractors,

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architectural practices and consultancies.

Ninety entries were received from all over the North West region in all categories, from small domestic extensions to large commercial developments.

More than 300 people gathered to witness the finalists collecting their awards whilst enjoying a celebration dinner and ceremony. The awards were presented by TV Personality Caroline Hacking.

LABC President Jeremy Hall hosted the event and Lorna Stimpson, LABC Business



Harmony Street in Oldham won the Best Housing Large Developer (more than 11 units) category for Wiggett Construction Ltd

Development Director, proved to be an excellent Master of Ceremonies.

Lorna said: "I am delighted to be supporting these awards which recognise quality in the construction industry. It is working in partnership with local companies who have an interest in the local community which helps to produce excellent developments contributing to the regeneration of the area, providing quality buildings and improving the lives of its citizens.

Local authority building

control is committed to supporting the industry in producing projects which are outstanding in their design and construction and working in partnership with quality building contractors."

Winners included Wiggett Construction in the social housing category and Kier Construction in the education category for the new schools it built in Oldham.

Lorna Stimpson added: "The skill in local authority building control in the specialist areas of educational buildings and healthcare is

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Special thanks go to the staff at the Reebok Stadium and to Brian Bannister of Focal Point Promotions, who organised the event. Buildbase, Civils and Lintols, PMA and Noise sponsored the evening.

Peter Smith, Chair of the LABC North West region, and the driving force behind the event, said: "I was obviously very pleased that the event was such a tremendous success and it demonstrates what can be achieved with effective teamwork."



The Radclyffe School in Oldham, constructed by Kier North West Ltd, picked up the Best Educational Building award

The event also raised more than £2,000 in support of the President's chosen charity Bowel Cancer UK.

North West winners now go forward to the National Building Excellence Awards being held on October 20 in London.

The winners were as follows:

BEST DOMESTIC EXTENSION

The Old Vicarage, Dobcross
PMA Architecture
Oldham

BEST RESIDENTIAL CONVERSION

Arcon Village, Horwich
Redrow Homes (Lancs) Ltd
Bolton

BEST HOUSING SMALL DEVELOPER

Watering Trough Cottage,
Ribble Valley
C and D Developments
Ribble Valley

BEST HOUSING LARGE DEVELOPER (MORE THAN 11 UNITS)

Harmony Street, Oldham
Wiggett Construction Ltd
Oldham

BEST SOCIAL HOUSING

Tulle Court Apartments,
Bury
Richardson Developments
Bury

BEST HEALTHCARE BUILDING

Brightmet Health Centre,
Bolton
Eric Wright Construction
Ltd/ Nightingale Associates
Bolton

BEST EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

Radclyffe School, Oldham
Kier North West Ltd
Oldham

BEST COMMERCIAL UP TO £1M

All Bikes Showroom,
Rochdale
Niche NorthWest Ltd
Rochdale

BEST COMMERCIAL OVER £1M

Yang Sing Hotel,
Manchester
Yang Sing Ltd
Manchester

BEST SUSTAINABLE PROJECT

Spinningfields Square,
Manchester
Bovis Lend-Lease
Manchester

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BEST TECHNICAL INNOVATION
Chimney Pot Park, Salford
Urban Splash Build (North)
Salford

BEST PARTNERSHIP
New BMW / Mini Dealership
G & J Seddon Ltd
Warrington/Bolton



Watering Trough Cottage, winner of the Best Housing (Small Developer) award