

27 November 2009

BLPT CHIEF EXECUTIVE IS CROWNED NHS LEADER OF THE YEAR

Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Social Care Partnership NHS Trust (BLPT) Interim Chief Executive, Dr Patrick Geoghegan OBE, beat 700 hopeful nominees from across the country to scoop the top NHS Leader of the Year award at the first NHS Leadership Awards held in London on Wednesday 25 November 2009.

Patrick was shortlisted as one of the top three finalists in two categories: 'Change Leader' and 'NHS Leader of the Year'. He said: "I'm absolutely thrilled! But this award is really for my excellent staff and the communities I work with, because together we've made the NHS a better place to be. This award is a cause for celebration for us all".

"I was honoured and humbled to be nominated and would like to thank my staff for putting me forward for this prestigious award", he added.

David Nicholson, Chief Executive of the NHS, said: "I would like to congratulate the winners of the inaugural NHS Leadership Awards. All the finalists are fantastic examples of leadership in the NHS. I hope their achievements will encourage and inspire others in the service and I look forward to working with them to raise the profile of outstanding leadership. We have a rich and diverse pool of people in the NHS to choose our future leaders from and we need to make the most of this incredible resource".

ENDS

NOTES FOR EDITOR

The NHS Leadership Awards 2009

The NHS Leadership Awards recognise outstanding leadership in the NHS across England. They are designed also to encourage and inspire future leaders from all backgrounds, reflecting the diverse communities served by the NHS. This year's awards attracted more than 700 entries for the seven categories, with only three candidates being shortlisted in each. This is the first time these awards have been held and it will now be an annual event.

For more information on the awards go to www.nhsleadershipawards.nhs.uk

Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Social Care Partnership NHS Trust

Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Social Care Partnership NHS Trust provides services to meet the mental health needs of a diverse population of around 600,000 people. We are committed to meeting the individual needs of our clients who come from all walks of life, age groups and ethnic backgrounds.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Please contact a member of the communications team on 01582 700223 or email communications@blpt.nhs.uk

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Please contact Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Social Care Partnership NHS Trust on 01582 708999.