**Care Award Category Guidance Notes 2015**

**This guidance is to help with the completion of the nomination form. It indicates the criteria against which the judges will base their decisions. If you are able to provide some practical examples of the work of the practitioner and / or testimony from service users, key people in their lives or colleagues, it will give an overview of the individual’s practice.**

**Practitioners who are short listed for any award represent the sector in Wales and will be role models for people working in the sector, it will help the first sift of short listing if you can provide examples from practice and ‘capture’ just what it is that makes this person outstanding.**

**Care Practitioner**

*There are two award categories, one for Care Practitioners working in traditional Residential Care Homes and one for practitioners working in the community in a variety of settings such as Domiciliary care, support for carers, extra care or reablement programmes.*

**Individuals nominated for this award:**

* should be working as ‘hands on’ supporting individuals living in their own homes or in residential care homes
* will continually demonstrate they work within the criteria laid down in the Care Council for Wales Codes of Practice for Social Care Workers
* will support individuals using services to take as much control over their day to day life decisions as they are able of willing to do
* will support individuals to maintain or regain life skills, always respecting the uniqueness of everyone, maintaining dignity and promoting choice and independence
* will recognise the importance of the Key People in individuals’ lives, encourage community links and work effectively as a team member to support individuals to enjoy a good quality of life
* will be qualified practitioners, keep themselves up-dated and act as a role model for their peers.

**Excellence in Leadership and Management**

*This award has two categories. The first is for Managers of community based services, such as Domiciliary care providers or small group homes. The second is for managers of larger settings, such as larger establishments providing residential or nursing care provision.*

**Managers nominated for this category will:**

* lead their team to deliver best practice using leadership skills and role modelling.
* research current and emerging practice and base their systems and procedures on evidence based practice.
* keep abreast of WAG policy and the legislative framework relevant to their area of practice
* make good use of Care Council for Wales Codes of Practice and Induction Framework
* work within relevant professional Codes of Conduct.
* support the team to develop into reflective practitioners who question, challenge and place the people who use services and the key people in their lives at the centre of service provision.

Supporting evidence could be in the form of testimony from people using services, colleagues and practitioners from the community. It may be useful to include information from recent inspection reports.

**Exceptional Newcomer**

This award is for anyone who is new to work in the social care sector. The individual will have been working in the sector for less than 2 years. He or she will have demonstrated outstanding development during the period of induction and first months of work. They will have demonstrated a sound value base and good interpersonal skills and will work to the principles of good practice outlined in the CCW Codes of Practice for Social Care Workers.

**Nurse of the Year**

The nominee will demonstrate outstanding practice, in work with individuals using services and in support for the development of staff. He or she will:

* use evidence based practice to inform daily work practice and
* have leadership skills that have positively changed or influenced care delivery
* be a team worker
* hold values that demonstrate holistic, social and health care
* have instigated and participated in research based practice
* have demonstrated and influenced positive partnership working with external agencies and professionals.

**Promoting Fulfilled Lives**

The nominee will have worked extensively with individuals and the key people in their lives to develop innovation in practice that promotes well-being and enriches individuals’ life experiences. This is a wide category, the impact may be organisational, strategic or at an individual level. It reflects the basic nature of change required at every level of service provision to meet the Welsh Government’s Personalisation Agenda. Examples of innovation need to be recorded, together with outcomes.

**The Peter Clarke Award for Promoting Excellence in Services for Children and Young People**

The nominee will have demonstrated commitment to improving the lives of children and young people and supporting each child to achieve the ambitions outlined in the Welsh Assembly Government’s Seven Core Aims laid down in Children and Young People: Rights to Action. Supporting evidence will contain practical examples of their work and testimony from the children and young people with whom they work, colleagues and other professionals.

**The Craig Thomas Lifetime Achievement in Care**

This award covers a wide range of nominee. It recognises the work of an individual who has worked over time to raise the profile of social care and make a difference to the quality of service provision.

**Catering in Care**

When completing the application form please identify the nature of the establishment in which the nominee works

*Catering in Care No1; Registration for 39 & under.*

*Catering in Care No2; Registration for 40 & over.*

The person nominated for this award:

will have a daily ‘hands on’ approach in catering of every kind

* will excel in meeting the particular needs of each individual taking time to find out their personal tastes, likes and dislikes etc.
* must hold an up-to-date Food Safety Certificate level 2, 3 or 4 and a certificate of HACCP training. Copies of which should be attached to the application

Any certificates in Nutrition and Special Diets may also be included with application and the establishment must hold a current Environmental Health Certificate of a grade in Bronze - Silver - Gold or 3 - 4 - 5 Stars a copy of which should be included with the application.

**Excellence in Mental Health Care**

The person nominated will:

* demonstrate a thorough understanding of the nature and impact of mental health issues on individuals and the key people in their lives
* keep abreast of emerging practice
* challenge outdated or poor attitudes and practices
* work to support individuals and their families to take as much control over their lives as they are willing or able to
* act as a role model to colleagues, and
* promote the respect, dignity and wellbeing of individuals using services in all of their work.

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Excellence in Dementia Care**

The person nominated will:

* demonstrate a thorough understanding of the nature and impact of mental health issues on individuals
* understand the impact of dementia upon the key people in individuals lives
* keep abreast of emerging practice
* understand the importance of person centred care and the biographical model of practice
* challenge outdated or poor attitudes and practices
* work to support individuals and their families to take as much control over their lives as they are willing or able to
* act as a role model to colleagues, and
* promote the respect, dignity and wellbeing of individuals using services in all of their work.

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Excellence in Learning Disability Services**

This person will strive to make a difference to the life experiences of the people with whom they work. They will:

* be aware of historical attitudes towards people who have learning disabilities and the long term impact this has upon the perceptions of the wider community today
* understand the importance of respect, dignity and ‘aspirations’ and support in ways that aims to extend boundaries of expectation to work with individuals to establish a greater richness and quality of life
* Promote equality and secure the rights of the individuals they support.

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Outstanding Service**

This is a wide category open to any individual who works to support the quality of service provision. It may be someone who has worked in the sector in an administrative or ancillary role or a Care Practitioner who has demonstrated a commitment to service provision that has made significant improvement to the lives of people using services.

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Commitment to Training and Workforce Development**

This category is for those who have made a difference to the quality of service provision informally by developing the skills and knowledge of their colleagues or in a formal training and development role. The person will have a good understanding of the ways the Care Council for Wales Codes of Practice should be implemented in every day work, understand the importance of sound induction processes and support ongoing training and development. This person will embed the values and ethos of social care in all their work.

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Commitment to Quality in Hospitality & Housekeeping**

The nominee for this category will have demonstrated outstanding work in supporting the organisation to provide an environment where individuals are able to live their lives to the full in a comfortable and pleasant setting. This will involve:

* supporting individuals to make decisions about their surroundings
* where appropriate working with individuals to support them to maintain, develop or regain the skills to manage their own environment and take control of their daily living activities
* recognising the importance of practical issues and the atmosphere within the setting
* working effectively as a team member and role model
* promoting the uniqueness of each individual and respecting their ownership of their personal environment

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Innovation in Health and Safety in Health & Social Care**

The nominee for this category will:

* be dedicated to providing a safe and healthy environment for individuals using services, visitors and those who work in the environment
* have an in-depth understanding of the legislative requirements for H&S in the setting in which they work
* understand that risk assessment is there to enable not to restrict
* be aware of current and emerging policy

Examples of the nominees work should be recorded, together with outcomes.

**Excellence in Palliative & End of Life Care**

The individual nominated for the award may be a strategic worker, who:

* ensures staff are skilled and working to the all Wales care pathway
* is skilled at multi professional working
* may be a specialist i.e. peads, pain control, older people
* will have examples of excellence in own practice, and
* in influencing / instigating best practice in the work of others

The nominee may also be a care worker who has demonstrated he or she:

* uses a holistic approach
* has the knowledge and practices to maintain e.g. pain control, dignity, and a peaceful death
* is able to provide examples of evidence based practice

**Innovation in Residential Child Care**

This Award is specifically for anyone who is working in residential child care in a children’s home or residential school.

The nominee will have developed and implemented innovation in practice that has led to a positive impact and contribution which can be supported by a measurable outcome or set of outcomes building on the Welsh Assembly’s principles within Children First and the Government’s commitment to improve the life chances of vulnerable children.

Quantative evidence of the benefits of the innovation will be required with supporting evidence from the children and young people involved together with external sources such as parents; social workers; or teachers.

#### Deadline for entries

##### Tuesday 31st March 2015

For further information about the awards and details of each category, please visit www.careforumwales.co.uk