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**For immediate release**

## St Helens Chamber wins Most Effective Campaigning award at Chamber Awards bash

St Helens Chamber is celebrating after winning the Most Effective Campaigning award, sponsored by BT Business, at the British Chambers of Commerce's annual Chamber Awards 2013. The Chamber Awards, now in the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, is one of the showpiece events in the business calendar, highlighting the role of business as a positive force for the UK recovery, and for local communities.

The Chamber was praised by the judging panel for its approach to youth unemployment, helping more than 100 young people find work, 81 of those through apprenticeships. The Chamber engaged with members to identify the issues around the employability of young people, and introduced Traineeships in August 2013.

Nora Senior, President of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) said:

"This Chamber stands out as a shining light to others. The drive and focus shown by the Chamber in trying to tackle the problem of youth unemployment through both campaigning and in practical schemes is something we can all look up to. St Helens is a well-deserving recipient of this award, and is working to show the world why Business is Good for Britain."

Ends

**Notes to editors:**

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) Chamber Awards took place Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at The Brewery in London, and was supported by the RBS Group, British Library, BT Business, Composite Legal Expenses, Dell, DHL Express, Qdos Consulting, Westfield Health and Utilitywise.

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The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) sits at the heart of a powerful network of 53 Accredited Chambers of Commerce across the UK, representing thousands of businesses of all sizes and within all sectors. For more information visit: [www.britishchambers.org.uk](http://www.britishchambers.org.uk)

