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Hull shopping centre lands Chamber Awards success

A shopping centre in the heart of Hull is proving that 'Business is Good for Britain' after achieving a number of 'green' achievements.

St Stephen's Shopping Centre beat off challengers from across Yorkshire & Humber to secure the Sustainability Award, impressing judges with its commitment to making environmental best practice a key part of its growth plans.

It has almost erased its carbon footprint through a number of measures, such as electric vehicle charging, rainwater harvesting, recycling and energy efficient lighting.

In 2011, this translated into 675 tonnes of CO2 emissions cut, 35 million litres of water saved and 1100 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill.

President of the British Chambers of Commerce Martyn Pellew said: "There has never been a more important time for businesses to showcase the amazing work they are doing on a day-to-day basis.

"The Chamber Awards is a perfect platform for them to do just that and receive the recognition and profile they deserve for helping move the economy forward and create employment, often in local areas."

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) Chamber Awards 2012 is committed to finding the best businesses in Britain through a series of regional heats followed by a National Final, due to be held at London's Guildhall on November 29th.

Now in its 9th year, the competition is one of the showcase events for the 'Business is Good for Britain' campaign that highlights the role of business as a positive force for the UK recovery and the success of local communities and individuals.

St Stephen's Shopping Centre, which is a member of the Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Shipping is one of eight regional winners in Yorkshire and Humber, who will now go forward and compete for the national titles in their respective categories. All will have a chance to win 'Outstanding Business Achievement' and a £25,000 cash prize, courtesy of the RBS Group.

Other successful companies in the region include:

- Brandon Medical Company (Excellence in Innovation)
- Freshney Place Shopping Centre (Marketing Campaign of the Year)

- HBP Systems (Commitment to People Development)
- INATIV's Tony Sykes (Entrepreneur of the Year)
- Ramsden International (Business of the Year and Achievement in International Business)
- Shore Stewart Solicitors (Most Promising New Business)
- Weston Group (Excellence in Customer Service)

Martyn concluded: "A record number of firms have taken part this year, all determined to prove that 'Business is Good for Britain!'"

The Chamber Awards 2012 is supported by the RBS Group, BT Business, Dell, DHL Express, Westfield Health and Acua Limited.

For further information or to book your place at the National Awards Final, visit **www.chamberawards.co.uk**

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For further information, please contact Russ Cockburn on 07812 600271 or email russ@dc-pr.co.uk

Notes to Editors

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) is the national voice of local business.

The BCC sits at the heart of a powerful nationwide network of Accredited Chambers of Commerce, serving over **100,000 businesses** across the UK, which **employ over five million people**.

For more information visit: **www.britishchambers.org.uk**