

# Awards Network News and Information Update - February 2018



## Parliamentary Reception follow-up

Thanks again to everyone who supported our Parliamentary Reception on 23 January. It was a great showcase for the Awards Network and its member organisations, with clear evidence of the impact of youth awards provided by inspiring young people. Speakers and the wide array of guests attending provided clear recognition that youth awards can and do make an important contribution to young peoples' learning and can be harnessed to good effect within the context of the Scottish Attainment Challenge and Developing the Young Workforce.



There is a growing acceptance of the need for improved recognition of the wider achievements of young people and I'm pleased to report that, following a keynote address to our Parliamentary Reception by the Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, discussions are being planned to explore this further with us. What a fantastic legacy such recognition would offer for [Year of Young People 2018!](#)



year of young people  
bliadhna na h-òigridh  
2018

## #awardsaware



We have very ambitious targets for [Awards Aware](#). Registrations since our Parliamentary Reception have been encouraging but we all need to do more to improve sign-up by youth organisations, schools, colleges, employers, DYW groups and others. The more people and organisations that know about and value youth awards the better we serve young people by encouraging and facilitating award opportunities, take-up, achievement and recognition.

To help promote the scheme Awards Aware members are asked to tweet images featuring their certificate using #awardsaware.

## Scottish Attainment Challenge and partnerships with the Third Sector



[New guidance](#) has been produced to help schools develop meaningful partnerships with the Third Sector. In the context of [PEF](#), Schools are encouraged to consider the potential of partnerships with youth work organisations and others to help in achieving the best possible outcomes for children and young people. This and other helpful information can be found on the [National Improvement Hub](#).

## DYW – Developing the Young Workforce



Youth awards help young people develop key skills, aptitudes and attitudes that are highly prized by employers. They have much to contribute to the DYW agenda that sets out to prepare young people for employment and the world of work. The Awards

Network is seeking to engage with the employer-led DYW Region Groups across Scotland to raise awareness of youth awards and to explore potential for collaboration. Helpful meetings have recently been held with [DYW Glasgow](#) and [DYW Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian](#), with issues explored including employer engagement, how youth award organisations might interface with [Marketplace](#) and the [Subject Choices Tool](#). Next stop is DYW North East, following up on DYW Quality Accreditation!

### Awards Network Governance



**Awards Network**  
**Purpose and Operating Framework**  
(Revised and updated February 2018)

The revised [Purpose and Operating Framework document](#) that determines governance of the Awards Network is now adopted with immediate effect. This updating is the culmination of a process that included proposed key elements of a revised governance document being outlined at the Members meeting of 5 December; subsequent member consultation; further consideration by the Strategy Group and the subsequent addition of member category 'offer' information following review by members of the Strategy and Membership sub-Groups.

### Awards Network Meetings

The next Members Meeting will take place on **24<sup>th</sup> April 2018** (11.00am to 2.00pm), hosted by Boys' Brigade Scotland at their Scottish Headquarters, Carronvale, Larbert.

Meetings scheduled for the rest of the year are 4 September (Edinburgh) and 4 December (Glasgow).



**Jim Duffy**  
**15 February 2018**