

## HOUSING 21 EMPLOYEE SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2012 HOUSING HEROES AWARDS

Housing 21 Court Manager Mike Higgs, who is based in Bristol, has been shortlisted from more than 300 entries to the 2012 Housing Heroes Awards. These awards are in their fourth year and will once again showcase the people and teams that are doing exceptional work in the housing sector.

Mike Higgs is now one of six finalists left in the running for the Inspirational Colleague of Year category.

The event is organised by *Inside Housing* magazine and the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) and attracted an amazing response with submissions from the length and breadth of the UK.

The winners will be revealed at a sparkling awards ceremony at London's Hilton Hotel on Friday 11 May. The awards are sponsored by United House, Higgins, Lovell, Insight, Hays, Estuary Housing and Orchard Systems. Last year over 600 people attended, making it one of the biggest award ceremonies in the social housing calendar.

Lorraine Jenner, locality manager for Housing 21 said: "We are delighted that Mike has been shortlisted for this award. He has truly gone the extra mile in helping older people become an integral part of their local community. His determination and enthusiasm are to be applauded."

Mike was shortlisted for his efforts in bringing his residents and the local community together, particularly the organisation of an event last August as part of Bristol City Council's Celebrating Age Festival.

Robin Lawler, president of the Chartered Institute of Housing, said "Leadership does not just reside in the chief executive and chair of organisations. In the most effective and dynamic housing organisations, leadership runs from the top to the bottom. Heroes are people who show drive, commitment and, above all, leadership.

"The Housing Heroes Awards are a great way to recognise the heroes who work selflessly across the housing sector in a great variety of organisations throughout the UK."

Stuart Macdonald, editor of *Inside Housing*, said: "All the finalists have done amazingly well in getting this far. Well done to Mike Higgs for being shortlisted. The competition was really tough with more than 40 entries in some categories."

For further information, please contact Wendy Gomicki, PR & Information Officer, Housing 21 on 0370 192 4338 or email [wendy.gomicki@housing21.co.uk](mailto:wendy.gomicki@housing21.co.uk)

Housing 21's mission is to promote independence and choice for older people through quality care, health and housing services. It provides around 131,000 hours of care each week and manages 18,700 sheltered and extra care apartments, providing services to more than 31,000 service users.

Keep up to date with Housing 21 at [www.facebook.com/housing21.co.uk](http://www.facebook.com/housing21.co.uk) or via our website [www.housing21.co.uk](http://www.housing21.co.uk), or follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/Housing21news>

Tables of ten (or individual tickets) can be booked for the Housing Heroes Awards by calling Createvents on 01252 781178. You can find out more by visiting Inside Housing's website: [www.insidehousing.co.uk](http://www.insidehousing.co.uk), and clicking on the events section.