**Recognition for the Contribution made by Community Members**

**Context:** The information below is intended as a helpsheet for those who want to recognise a community member who has engaged with resilience and recovery work. Below are some national awards which could be appropriate to reward their contribution and achievements. Links to all the relevant websites and nomination forms are also provided. For any further information please contact: community.resilience@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of award</th>
<th>What is the award?</th>
<th>Criteria for nomination</th>
<th>Examples of previous winners</th>
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<td><strong>The Big Society Award</strong></td>
<td>The award has been created to recognise individuals, groups or organisations who are demonstrating the Big Society in their work or activities. The award focuses on three specific areas: 1. <strong>Empowering communities</strong> - people being, and being encouraged to be, more involved in their communities. 2. <strong>Changing and opening up public services</strong> - local people taking control of how things are done in their area. 3. <strong>Promoting social action</strong> - public sector organisations and individuals demonstrating innovative ways of delivering public services.</td>
<td>The types of activity that the award will recognise are: 1. People, groups or organisations which have brought the community together – for example, an individual who initiates a group or activity in the community. 2. People who have given substantial time and money to help others. 3. Individuals that have been catalysts to new ways of delivering public services. 4. Co-operatives and/or mutuals that are delivering public services. 5. Local businesses, local authorities, public sector organisations and social enterprise organisations.</td>
<td>Christine Gibson, based in the East of England, was the first individual person to receive a Big Society award. She brought together people in her community to design and develop unused land into a garden for local residents and families. She also engendered funding from the housing association.</td>
<td>The awards are distributed <strong>every two / three months</strong>. Therefore, it is an ongoing process. The deadlines for the next nomination rounds are:  - <strong>October 4th 2011</strong> (recipients notified by end of Jan 2012)  - <strong>December 12th 2011</strong> (recipients notified by end of Mar 2012) The timetable for 2012 will be available shortly on the Big Society website.</td>
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Nomination forms can be accessed [here](http://www.number10.gov.uk/bigsocietyawards).
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| **Queens honours system – including (starting with the most prestigious):** | Honours are given to people from all sections of society who have made a difference to their community. The process is open to all and anyone can make a nomination. There are several different types of award, each one recognising a different type of contribution. | Honours can be awarded for all sorts of work - paid or unpaid - but the nominee must still be involved in the activity for which they are nominated. All recommendations are sent to the Cabinet Office - ‘Honours and Appointments Secretariat’ with the final selections for honours made by one of the eight independent selection Committees. Generally, the criteria used is:  

**CBE** - Awarded for a leading role in regional affairs, through achievement or service to the community.  

**OBE** - Awarded for a distinguished regional role in any field or through achievement or service to the community.  

**MBE** - Awarded for a local 'hands-on' service which stands out as an example to | Numerous members of the public have received honours (both MBE’s and CBE’s) for community work.  
The full list can be accessed [here](http://www.honours.gov.uk). | There are no deadlines for the receipt of nomination forms, but their consideration is likely to take least 12 to 18 months. Therefore, it is not possible to nominate someone for a specific Honours list. They are published at New Year and on the occasion of the Queen’s Birthday. |
| **CBE** | [www.honours.gov.uk](http://www.honours.gov.uk) | | | |
| **OBE** | | | | |
| **MBE** | | | | |

Nomination forms can be accessed [here](http://www.honours.gov.uk).
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| **The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service** - www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk | The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK for outstanding work done in their local Communities. | Any group of two or more people in the UK undertaking volunteering work which provides a specific benefit to a local area for three or more years. In order to be nominated, volunteer groups should be undertaking work which:  
- Provides a service and meets a need for people living in the local community.  
- Is supported, recognised and respected by the local community and the people who benefit from the activity.  
- Is run locally. | Around 750 volunteering groups from across the UK have been honoured since The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service began in 2002. Last year’s winners included:  
- Windmill Hill community forum (North West)  
- British Red Cross Refugee service (South East)  
- Telford Voluntary Police Cadets (West Midlands)  
- Coroner’s court support service (London) | A group can be nominated at any time. However, in order for them to be considered for an award in 2012 nominations must be submitted by 30th September 2011. Nominations may be considered at any point over a three-year period. |
### The Queen’s Garden Party

- **http://www.royal.gov.uk/RoyalEventsandCeremonies/GardenParties/Gardenparties.aspx**

People from all sections of society are invited on the recommendation of a large number of national organisations who submit lists on pre-arranged quotas. This ensures that a representative cross section of the community is invited and that guests are generally people who have contributed a large amount to their various organisations or society. The event normally lasts for two hours, where the Queen and other members of the Royal Family will circulate amongst guests.

The Lord-Lieutenant of each county receives a limited quota of nominations each year for the general public, who may apply to their Lieutenancy Office for consideration. In addition, the government, Lord-Lieutenants and organisations such as the Civil Service, Armed Services, Diplomatic Corps, charities and societies, all have quotas for nominations and our requested to submit nominees to Lord Chamberlain’s office. Community members who have made an outstanding contribution can thus be recognised.

Approximately 8,000 guests attend each garden party. People from every section of society are invited on the recommendation of a large number of national organisations who submit lists on a pre-arranged quota.

The Queen hosts at least three parties at Buckingham Palace in June and July, as well as one at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh in July. The deadline for nominations is **mid-March** each year. Garden party invitations are sent out by the Lord Chamberlain’s Office.

### The Emergency Planning Society Resilience Awards

- Nomination forms can be accessed [here](http://www.epsconference2011.org).

All EPS members are encouraged to nominate colleagues for the award. There are eight categories of award which recognise the contribution of individuals to emergency planning over the preceding twelve months.

**NB** – it should be noted that the EPS awards are aimed solely at ‘professional’ emergency planners who may

Nominations can be made for an individual (s) who have made a significant contribution in the following areas:

1. **Resilience Planner of the Year**;
2. **Resilience Team of the Year**;
3. **Emergency Planning Initiative of the Year**;
4. **Most Innovative Product of the Year**;

**2011 Emergency Planning Initiative of the Year**:

**2011 Resilience Planner of the Year**
Gary Locker – City of London Corporation

The award ceremony is held annually.

The timetable for 2012 will be available shortly on the website.
(However, please note that the deadline for nominations has now passed).

have contributed and have been engaged in community resilience work. They are not at present, available for the general public.

5. The Local Resilience Forum/Strategic Coordinating Group National Capability Award;
6. The Local Resilience Forum/Strategic Coordinating Group National Policy Award;
7. Innovation In Resilience Award.

2011 Local Resilience Forum/Strategic Coordinating Group National Policy Award
Essex and Nottingham County Council’s Schools Resilience Project.