

# News Release

**27 March 2017**

## **Hospital GEM Awards Open for Nominations**

Dorset County Hospital's annual staff awards - The Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Awards - are now open for nominations.

The GEM Awards scheme recognises outstanding members of staff, volunteers and teams that have exceeded what is expected of them in terms of performance, effort and attitude.

Nominations can be made by members of staff, volunteers, patients, their families and friends, members of the public and employees of organisations with whom the Trust works in partnership.

Any member of staff, volunteer, student or apprentice can be nominated, wherever they work in the hospital.

This year there are nine categories:

- Chairman's Award
- Team of the Year Award
- Leadership Award
- Innovation Award
- Volunteer Award
- Patient Safety Award
- Student/Apprentice of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Patient Choice Award

The awards will be presented by the Chief Executive at an evening ceremony in June which will include dinner and entertainment. Patients, their relatives or friends, line managers and managers from voluntary organisations who have nominated those who are shortlisted will also be invited to attend.

Patricia Miller, Chief Executive said: "The GEM Awards are an opportunity for us to celebrate the amazing contribution and achievements of our staff and volunteers.

We are so proud that staff across the hospital consistently go above the call of duty to ensure our patients receive the very best possible care. We would like to encourage everyone to nominate members of staff who they have experienced 'going the extra mile'."

Nominations can be made by submitting an online nomination form via the hospital website [www.dchft.nhs.uk](http://www.dchft.nhs.uk) and clicking on the staff section, or by picking up a nomination form from around the hospital. Forms can also be requested from Kelly Upton, Workforce Advisor/Analyst in the HR department on 01305 254116 or [kelly.upton@dchft.nhs.uk](mailto:kelly.upton@dchft.nhs.uk). The deadline for nominations is 16 April.

**ENDS**

**PHOTO: Winners at the GEM Awards ceremony in 2016**

**For more information please contact the DCH Communications Team on 01305 254683 or [communications@dchft.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@dchft.nhs.uk)**