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Press Release

For immediate release

Social Enterprise Award for the longest serving enterprise agency in the UK

East London Small Business Centre's long term commitment to enterprise promotion was recognised with the Social Enterprise of the Year Award, at the Growing Business Awards last week (Thursday 27th November).

The Social Enterprise award was given in recognition of the East London Small Business Centre's significant contribution to social entrepreneurship. The awards, run by the CBI and Real Business Magazine, are the nation's highest-profile awards for small and growing businesses. Now on their tenth year of celebrating innovation and enterprise amongst Britain's business community, the event was hosted by Rt. Hon. William Hague and attended by many of Britain's best entrepreneurs..

East London Small Business Centre (ELSBC), which has been at the forefront of enterprise support within disadvantaged communities in east London for the past 30 years, was recognised for their longstanding vision to increase social mobility and wealth through enterprise in some of the most deprived boroughs in London.

Tim Heath, Chief Executive of ELSBC said: "It was an immense pleasure to pick up the award, especially at a time when our organisation has just celebrated 30 years of enterprise support in east London. We continue to strive to be the best in the provision of help to all entrepreneurs in the east London region."

Since its establishment in 1978, the centre has supported and developed over 10,000 new and existing businesses in the five east London Boroughs it covers, and has lent over £10 million to clients who have been refused by mainstream banks.

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Richard Lambert, director-general of the CBI said: “In tougher economic times, it pays to keep an eye on the long-term, and plan for growth when upturn comes. That’s why the Growing Business Awards is so important, helping to identify the next generation of business leaders, inspiring us with their ingenuity and skill, and giving us hope and confidence in the future.”

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Editor’s Note:

1. East London Small Business Centre (ELSBC), actively supports small businesses in east London. Established in 1978, ELSBC has helped over 10, 000 people realise their dream of running their own business.
2. ELSBC is a not for profit organisation and is supported by major UK and international Companies; Local Authorities; National & European funded programmes and organisations who are committed to helping create jobs and increase prosperity in east London.

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