



Over a hundred and thirty delegates gathered at APSE's National Highways and Street Lighting Seminar to witness Lancashire's Matthew Southworth lifting the Highways and Street Lighting Apprentice of the Year winners trophy. Judges viewed Matthew's personal commitment to his training to be outstanding though it was a close contest with excellent submissions from four other finalists who were Khaleel Mohammed of Kirklees, Michael Glasgow from Midlothian, Ian Politt of Tameside and David Gray of Falkirk.

APSE Chief Executive, Paul O'Brien in announcing the finalists and winner said **"Not only are the apprentices to be congratulated for their progress, in entering into successful apprenticeships, but also the Councils that have shown the public sector to be thoroughly committed to local employment and skilling their workforce."** Adding **"With many of our local authorities seeing shortages in skills such as street lighting, highways maintenance, paviers and other trades it is essential that all councils learn the lessons and grow their own future workforce"**.

[Click here](#) to view the full press release, seminar presentations and photographs of our winner and finalists.

Does your Council have what it takes?

APSE Service Awards 2007 provides an opportunity for councils throughout the UK to show just how good they are. The service awards are free to enter so to place your council or service into the running for the prestigious awards for 2007 please [click here](#) to view the awards categories and download an application form.

Best wishes

Mo Baines
Principal Advisor

Ends

APSE is a not for profit local government body working with over 300 local authorities throughout England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

APSE is the foremost representative body of local service provision within the UK.

APSE provides a range of services to member authorities including, performance information, training and development, ethical consultancy support, advisory services, lobbying and seminars.

The APSE Highways and Street Lighting Apprentice of the Year Award is designed to reward those authorities and individual apprentices who have shown a commitment to develop in work training on local authority trades to help stem the decline in skilled workers throughout the UK

Media Contact **Mo Baines** on 0161 772 1810 / 07971 843515

Email mbaines@apse.org.uk / Fax 0161 772 1811

APSE Website www.apse.org.uk