



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Swanswell achieves ‘one to watch’ status in the 2010 *Best Companies Accreditation*

15 February 2010, Rugby –Swanswell, a national charity based in Rugby, has been recognised as ‘one to watch’ in a list of the top public sector organisations to work for. Swanswell, who help people overcome drug, alcohol and other problem behaviour, was one of the few organisations to achieve this status.

As a charity that supports people in the community to be well and lead happier lives, Swanswell takes pride in being an excellent Midlands-based employer. They took part in *Best Companies Accreditation* to show their commitment to being a great organisation to work for and helping their staff be well and do well.

Best Companies established the accreditation award scheme to acknowledge excellence in the workplace. Based on staff feedback, it looks at employee engagement as a key part of a company’s success and growth and sets a benchmark for other employers. The achievement is something to be really proud of because it rates employers by assessing the comments of the people who actually work there.

Staff were keen to take part and tell *Best Companies* what it’s like working for Swanswell. An incredible 84% of Swanswell staff responded to the survey, the average response rate for participating organisations was 69%.

Jonathan Austin, founder and Chief Executive Officer of *Best Companies* said: ‘We’d like to congratulate Swanswell on their outstanding achievement. An engaged workforce is

essential as organisations move out of the recession and into a more stable economic situation. No doubt many organisations have tackled redundancies and rapid change this year. But organisations like Swanswell that have kept on engaging their staff and making sure they're involved in the business will be in a good position for the future and should be congratulated for their efforts.'

Debbie Bannigan, Swanswell Chief Executive, said: *'This is an amazing achievement for us because we have a very talented team who will always go the extra mile for Swanswell and the service users we work with. We're committed to being the best we can be for our service users and our staff, and it's great to know that our staff are proud to work for Swanswell.'*

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Notes for editors

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About Swanswell

Swanswell is a national charity that helps people overcome drug, alcohol and other problem behaviour. We believe that everyone deserves the chance to change and be happy. We help them to remove the things that stand in their way, whether physical, emotional or practical. So, as their lives improve, they can feel well, do well, and stay well. Swanswell has a reputation for innovation and is a leading developer of new services which help people to change their behaviour for the better.

Visit Swanswell at: www.swanswell.org

About *Best Companies*

Best Companies has been making an impact on workplace engagement since 2000. *Best Companies* conducts the largest employee engagement survey in the world having received nearly one million survey responses from over 3,000 different organisations.

Visit *Best Companies* at: www.bestcompanies.co.uk