



## COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE MARKS THE COMPLETION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE NEW STREET LIGHTING SCHEME

Stoke City Council and SSE Contracting marked the completion of phase one of the £123 million project to replace street lighting in the city with a celebration event. The Lord Mayor, representatives from residents' associations and local community groups and plaque design competition winner Shannon Quaile (a year five pupil at St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Norton) attended the event at Tunstall Floral Hall on 17 November 2009.

All Primary schools were invited to take part in a competition to design a commemorative plaque representing the aims of the project. Prize winner Shannon won an iPod for herself and £1,500 for her school to fund or part-fund a project.

During phase one of the project 25,255 lighting columns were replaced. The remaining 30% of the city's columns will be replaced over the lifetime of the contract. The program was ahead of schedule by 956 columns in February 2009.

Councillor Brian Ward, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "We have had a wonderful response to the competition all of which are of a very high standard which made choosing just one winner an incredibly difficult task.

"With the invaluable support provided by SSE Contracting we have completed the first phase of this programme and are now well on the way to making Stoke-on-Trent a safer and more energy efficient place to live."

Jim Huyton, Operations Manager for Stoke-on-Trent Lighting Services Depot, added: "This project has proved to be a successful way of replacing older street lighting infrastructure and is delivering better lit streets that help communities lead safer and secure lives."

press release

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