

**25<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

### **Commitment To Excellence Essential To Addressing Economic Problems**

The Northside Partnership has been awarded the *FÁS Excellence Through People Award* for the third time. The *Excellence Through People Award* is the national independent accreditation awarded by FÁS to organisations that demonstrate excellence in Human Resource Management.

Commenting, Willie Hamilton, Chairman of the Northside Partnership congratulated the Partnership on its award and urged businesses to invest in their employees particularly during the current economic climate.

“If we are to get this economy working again, it is essential that employers will have to invest in their own employees as their most precious asset. It will take huge effort to turn around the negative sentiment evident in Ireland and get our economy moving again. This will be done by providing a stimulus to the economy and utilising the incredible skill levels developed in the Irish work force over the last twenty years.

Marian Vickers, CEO Northside Partnership said she was delighted to achieve the ***Excellence Through People Award*** again and praised the work undertaken by the staff and Board of the company that led to the company being successful through the assessment process.

“The Northside Partnership was the first Partnership Company to achieve this award in the country and many others have now been successful in getting through the difficult process that FÁS has established. The Northside Partnership is committed to its staff and to delivering high quality services to the community that it serves. We are facing a very difficult time with the economy performing poorly and unemployment growing rapidly. However, I am confident that we have an exceptional staff here in the Partnership that will continue to service our community well.”

**Ends**

**For further information please contact:**

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