

8 December 2010

Communications Department
Tel: 01225 82 5849/5799/6230/1299

communication@ruh.nhs.uk
www.ruh.nhs.uk

Media Release

Food hygiene standards praised

Food at the Royal United Health (RUH) has been given a clean bill of health by Bath and North East Somerset Environmental Health Inspectors.

Catering staff at the hospital are celebrating as the RUH is one of only six organisations to receive a Merit Award for Food Safety in 2010.

Only 39 of the 1,800 organisations inspected each year in the BANES area hold a current Food Hygiene Award for Food Safety.

Hotel Services Manager for the RUH, Mike Newport says: "We are absolutely delighted to receive this Merit Award, which recognises the hard work of our catering team.

"This award provides solid evidence towards our hospital's compliance with the Essential Standards in Nutrition and Food Safety, set by the Care Quality Commission."

In order to achieve the Food Safety Merit Award, BANES Environmental Health Inspectors undertook a rigorous risk assessment of food production processes and food service premises at the hospital, scoring on food safety management, cleanliness, significance of risk and confidence in management. Following these assessments the RUH catering department has received the best score so far for 2010.

Mike continues: "Our catering staff are highly qualified to ensure we comply with food hygiene legislation. In fact, on the same day we received the Merit Award, our Hotel Services Quality and Training Manager Annie Paines was presented with the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Food Safety Management, level 4, certificate. This excellent achievement means that Annie is now qualified to carry out audits and inspections to ensure food hygiene and safety compliance, as well as providing training in food safety for new staff.

"This Food Safety Merit Award is a significant accomplishment and we are very proud that our staff's commitment to excellent food hygiene standards has been recognised in this way."

Ends