

**PROCURE PLUS CELEBRATES FRAMEWORK MEMBER'S NATIONAL AWARD
SUCCESS**

North West social housing procurement consortium, Procure Plus, is celebrating after its framework member, Jackson Jackson was awarded the title of 'SME of the Year' at the fifth annual Constructing Excellence National Awards.

The Rochdale-based construction firm beat eight organisations shortlisted in the category to scoop the top prize at the awards ceremony held at The Brewery in London on 25 November.

Following nine regional award ceremonies hosted to celebrate the best and brightest construction firms from across the UK, winners from within each region were automatically entered into the national final.

The honour of 'SME of the Year' goes to the company that has made the most significant impact on the industry over the previous year, and can demonstrate strong, healthy, prospects for future growth. Judges were impressed with the considerable strides Jackson Jackson has taken to implement best practice across the board, including its equality and diversity policies and procedures.

Commenting on the company's success, Beverley Sexton, Health, Safety, Environment & Quality Manager at Jackson Jackson, said: "This is a real triumph for us. We're extremely proud and honoured to receive this accolade. We have now been recognised nationally and it demonstrates a huge step in our growth and achievement. We hope that we will continue to improve and succeed in implementing best practice at the firm.

"Thanks to the support from Procure Plus and its established frameworks, we have been able to grow and deliver better services while helping local people develop skills and gain qualifications through better recruitment and training."



Mike Brogan, Chief Executive at Procure Plus, added: "It's been a difficult year for small businesses, particularly in the construction sector, which makes us even more proud that we were able to support Jackson Jackson in winning this esteemed national award – it's a real sign of its outstanding success despite tough economic times."

To find out more about Procure Plus visit www.procure-plus.com or for Jackson Jackson go to www.jackson-jackson.co.uk

About Procure Plus

Procure Plus is a regeneration consortium of social housing providers that aims to generate efficiencies by leveraging the procurement of construction materials and contractors. The organisation is compliant with Audit Commission requirements and makes it easier to manage HCA funding for schemes, and it has created a web-enabled system that delivers the benefits of consortium purchasing and a check list to ensure rules governing funding schemes are met.

All savings and any surplus made by the consortia is reinvested in to local communities helping to create jobs and improve local facilities and schemes. It is expected that clients of Procure Plus will collectively invest over £1.5 billion in the repair and upkeep of properties between 2006 and 2010/11; it is anticipated that a substantial proportion of this will be channeled through Procure Plus.

Press enquiries to:

Jo Hart or Gemma Eccleston at Tangerine PR

e: jo.hart@tangerinepr.com/ gemma.eccleston@tangerinepr.com

p: 0161 817 6600