



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Leeds social care colleagues celebrate three Great British Care Awards shortlistings

Colleagues from two Cygnet Social Care services in Leeds are celebrating three finalist places at the Yorkshire and Humber Great British Care Awards.

Laura Storey, Registered Manager of Kirkside House and Lodge in Kirkstall, has been shortlisted for the Care Home Registered Manager Award. The Kirkside House and Lodge team is also a finalist for the Care Home Team Award.

Kayode Olawoyin, from Cygnet's Supported Living in Leeds service, has been named a finalist for the Workforce Development Award.

Laura said: "I am incredibly proud to have been shortlisted, particularly alongside our fantastic team at Kirkside House and Lodge. This recognition belongs to everyone at the service, because delivering high-quality, person-centred support is only possible through a shared commitment, strong teamwork and a genuine belief in the potential of every individual we support.

"Our colleagues bring compassion, energy and dedication to their roles every day, so it is wonderful to see their contribution celebrated on a regional stage."

The Cygnet Social Care service, on Spen Lane, supports adults with learning disabilities and complex needs. The two services share a garden where residents can take part in horticultural activities and enjoy a sensory space.

Kirkside House also hosts a bakery project, run alongside gardening and textiles projects for people supported by Cygnet's Yorkshire services. The activities offer opportunities to learn practical skills and build confidence.

The Care Home Registered Manager Award recognises leadership, continuous improvement and the involvement of residents and families in shaping care. The Care Home Team Award celebrates teams that work together to provide support tailored to each person's needs.

Kayode's shortlisting recognises the contribution workforce development makes to social care. The award celebrates people who identify colleagues' training needs and encourage ongoing learning and professional growth.

Kayode said: "Being a finalist is a proud achievement. It means my hard work, dedication and commitment have been recognised and appreciated, and being shortlisted among the best is something truly worth celebrating. I am really grateful."

Cygnet Social Care Supported Living in Leeds provides tailored support for adults with learning disabilities and autism and complex mental health needs. People hold their own tenancies and receive support to live as independently as possible in the community.

The Great British Care Awards celebrate the people and teams making a difference across the social care sector. The Yorkshire and Humber ceremony will take place at the Royal Armouries in Leeds on Friday 6 November 2026. Regional winners will progress to the national final.