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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Exceptional colleagues honoured with awards

Colleagues from across Lincolnshire Co-op's business were recognised at the society's **2026 Spotlight Awards**, for going above and beyond for their customers and teams.

The event was held at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel** in Lincoln and saw **Branches of the Year** recognised within each of the co-operative's business area, and other awards commending colleagues who have raised money for local good causes, supported vulnerable customers in difficult circumstances and more.

Lincolnshire Co-op members had the chance to vote for a colleague who has made a difference to them to win the **Members' Choice Award**.

**Eric Williams**, Customer Services Assistant at Tattershall Food Store, won the prestigious award for building strong relationships with his local community and going out of his way to help others.

Eric said: *"Being invited to the awards was a massive surprise, so when I heard my name get called, I was in complete shock!"*

*“I’m so grateful for my customers and I know they appreciate what I do for them. When I work on the tills, all the children and their families line up so they can be served by me, and I love speaking to all my customers. Thank you to everyone who nominated me.”*

Eric’s Manager, **Tina Foulston**, said: *“Eric thoroughly deserves this award, and the team could not be happier that he’s been recognised.*

*“I watch in awe as he engages so passionately with his customers, whether they’re regulars or people he’s never met before, and I know he loves having the opportunity to make everyone’s day better.”*

**Branches of the Year** were awarded to **Clipstone Food Store, St. Botolph’s Pharmacy in Lincoln, Skellingthorpe Post Office, Long Sutton Travel and Sutton on Sea Funeral Home.**

Lincolnshire Co-op CEO **Alison Hands** said: *“Our Spotlight Awards was an incredible evening, celebrating colleagues from across the business who have gone the extra mile for their teams and customers.*

*“On behalf of the society, congratulations to all our fantastic winners and everyone who was nominated – you really are making life better in our communities.”*

**Ends**

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**Notes to editors:**

1. **Lincolnshire Co-op** is an independent co-operative society. Its purpose is to bring together ideas, energy and resources to make life better in communities. It has around 300,000 members and 2,900 local colleagues in Lincolnshire and the surrounding counties and an elected board of directors who oversee the business. The society provides **valued services** and supports the **local economy** from outlets across its trading area including food stores, filling stations, post offices, travel branches, funeral homes, a florist, a crematorium and community libraries. It also cares for people's **health and wellbeing** through its pharmacies and support for a network of wellbeing walks. Local good causes benefit through its Community Champions scheme and together, colleagues and members also look after the **local environment** through volunteering. As well as its trading outlets, Lincolnshire Co-op owns properties, from flats and houses to commercial premises. The society brings land and buildings back into use to create attractive environments. With Lincolnshire Co-op as landlord, rents stay local and are invested in schemes that benefit the community.