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CHELMSFORD MAN WINS HRH PRINCE OF WALES'S AMBASSADOR AWARD

John Spence, MBE, has been named National Ambassador for Business in the Community (BITC) in recognition of his services to the community.

Spence, of Chelmsford, Essex, won the award last night and was given a citation from His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales.

HRH, The Prince of Wales, said: "John Spence has been an outstanding campaigner and advocate for Business in the Community. He has led 'Seeing is Believing' visits all over the country and he has played a vital role in the last five years as a Deputy Chairman of the organisation. He has also chaired the Regeneration Leadership team which has produced an innovative range of programmes to help businesses to engage with communities, as well as challenging larger companies to do more at local level and recognising the contributions of small businesses through the 'Community Mark'."

Prince Charles continued: "John's ability to persuade and enthuse others about the importance of partnership and the vital role of business brokers has made a considerable impact on the Government's policies for neighbourhood renewal, and I could not be more impressed by all that he has done to translate practice into policy."

John Spence commented: "I was stunned to receive this award – it was a real bolt from the blue. I believe the Business in the Community programme plays a vital role in highlighting the valuable contribution that businesses can make across the UK."

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Notes to Editors:

John Spence, MBE, is Director of Policy Co-ordination & Risk, UK Retail Banking, Lloyds TSB.

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