



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Swanswell becomes a *Diversity Champion***

07 June 2010, Rugby – Swanswell, a charity that helps people overcome alcohol, drug and other problem behaviour, takes pride in being a diverse organisation and has recently become a *Stonewall Diversity Champion*.

Swanswell will be working alongside other employers, such as *Google UK*, *B&Q* and the *Home Office*, to promote supportive work environments for gay people because they believe people perform better and lead happier lives when they can be themselves.

Swanswell joined *Stonewall's* scheme to develop and share their experience of best practice with other employers and to show their commitment to equality. Swanswell team member, David Lewis, said:

*'There's a great team spirit throughout the whole organisation and everyone is focussed on doing what they do well. I feel supported and encouraged to progress in this exciting period of change for Swanswell. I'd recommend working for Swanswell to anyone who wanted the opportunity to succeed in an environment where everyone's contribution is valued and heard.'*

Natacha Bogard, Swanswell Senior Practitioner and Diversity Lead, went on to say: *'We're sending a clear message to both our staff and service users that Swanswell is committed to being fair and respectful. Our work with Stonewall gives us a sturdy framework to address other diversity issues. Investors in Diversity have already told us*

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*we've reached level one in their three step process to becoming a leader in diversity and we will continue to strive in create a working environment that's open, fair and non-judgmental.'*

[ENDS]

### Notes for editors

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### About Swanswell

Swanswell is a national charity that helps people overcome drug, alcohol and other problem behaviour. We believe that everyone deserves the chance to change and to be happy. We help them to remove the things that stand in their way, whether physical, emotional or practical. So, as their lives improve, they can feel well, do well, and stay well. Swanswell has a reputation for innovation and is a leading developer of new services which help people to change their behaviour for the better.

Visit Swanswell at: [www.swanswell.org](http://www.swanswell.org)

### About Stonewall

Stonewall is Britain's leading lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) equality charity. Established in 1989, Stonewall has been instrumental in changing the legislative environment in Britain. Stonewall's campaigning work and policy expertise spans areas including health, education, media, and hate-crime. Their extensive research and influence on key decision-makers

enables them to provide best practice guidance and advice to stakeholders across all sectors.

Visit Stonewall at: [www.stonewall.org.uk](http://www.stonewall.org.uk)