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**It's a hat-trick! HR Dept in running for third awards in 2014**

The HR Dept's Bristol, Bath and North Somerset office has been shortlisted for two categories in the North Somerset Business Awards 2014 - with the company now celebrating an "awards recognition hat-trick" in the first three-quarters of this year.

The HR Dept, which is in the running for **Small Business of the Year**, provides outsourced human resources support for small to medium size businesses dealing with everything an in house HR department would do, but at a fraction of the cost. As well as its Bristol, Bath and North Somerset Office The HR Dept covers 65 territories throughout the UK and Ireland, each run by experienced HR professionals under the HR Dept brand.

In addition, 27 year-old Company Director Anna Pepler is one of three candidates shortlisted for the **Young Business Person of the Year** category at the North Somerset Business Awards 2014.

Anna joined The HR Dept in April 2009 on a placement, whilst completing her Masters Degree in HR Management at the University of the West of England. From placement student to Company Director in just 5 years, Anna is delighted to have her success recognised in this year’s North Somerset Business Awards

Anna’s many successes include taking over and increasing the turnover in the North Somerset office every year since 2010, increasing the company’s portfolio of services for clients across the area which in turn have been rolled out across The HR Dept nationally, along with implementing a CSR policy and involving team members in raising money for two local charities who are clients of The HR Dept.

And earlier in the year, in April, The HR Dept's Founder and Executive Director Sue Tumelty was awarded a **‘Women in the Workplace’ award**, in the Bristol and Bath Women in Business Awards. The award recognises business leaders who have demonstrated a flexibility and adaptability to the employment of women.

The HR Dept nationally has also recently been shortlisted for major industry recognition in the **‘HR Consultancy of the Year’** category in the Personnel Today Awards 2014.

And to add to this the business is celebrating further success in its 2014 client satisfaction survey, scoring 9.3 out of 10 for overall satisfaction among almost 700 survey respondents nationwide.

Founder and Executive Director Sue Tumelty, who launched the business in 2003 says it is wonderful to see her team recognised for their achievements during what is proving to be an outstanding year for the company.

"We are already delighted that over the last year we have launched 10 more territories throughout the UK, ensuring that thousands more SMEs can call on our high quality, practical and personal HR support that will help their businesses to excel and grow.

“But to now receive nominations in three prestigious awards and have one award under our belt is thrilling." says Sue.

"The HR Dept is all about providing down-to-earth employment advice and support through a local and personal service, so being one of the top three entrants in two categories of the North Somerset Business Awards is fantastic for us all. I am absolutely delighted for Anna and for our hardworking team all of whom contribute to the success." adds Sue.

"I absolutely love what I do and am honoured to even be nominated for this award let alone to be shortlisted. But the icing on the cake for me is that five of our clients have been recognised alongside us in the awards as successful businesses too!" adds Anna Pepler, shortlisted for Young Business Person of the Year and who runs The HR Dept North Somerset. "We are delighted for them all and proud to work alongside them, advising and sorting any people problems that may come their way."

The HR Dept is now planning further growth, aiming to cover more territories all over the UK in order to support the SME sector, from micro-businesses taking on their first staff member to those managing a few hundred. The HR Dept will continue to help SMEs of all types and in all industries to succeed and grow as important drivers of economic growth in the UK.

Notes to editors:

1. The North Somerset Business Awards 2014, are organised by Business Leader magazine.
2. The North Somerset Business Award winners will be revealed at a gala dinner held on September 25 and hosted by Michelle Mone OBE, one of the UK's most successful female entrepreneurs and founder of international lingerie brand, Ultimo.
3. The Personnel Today Awards are organised by the UK's leading free-access HR website which provides HR news, jobs and employment law guidance from the team behind the UK's leading online HR resource, XpertHR.
4. The Personnel Today Awards ceremony will take place on 18 November in London. The Consultancy of the Year category recognises those who have demonstrated a positive and measurable impact on projects they have collaborated on with their clients.
5. More information about The HR Dept’s 2014 client survey results can be viewed here: <http://www.hrdept.co.uk/press-releases/2014/7/21/more-small-businesses-looking-recruit-confidence-returns-uk-employers-need>
6. More information about The HR Dept Bristol, Bath and North Somerset can be found here at [www.hrdept.co.uk/offices/south-west/bristol-bath-and-north-somerset](http://www.hrdept.co.uk/offices/south-west/bristol-bath-and-north-somerset) or by calling 0845 20 21 999
7. More on information about The HR Dept can be found [www.hrdept.co.uk](http://www.hrdept.co.uk) or by calling 0845 180 1120

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