Human Resource management is a process of bringing people and organisations together to achieve success. The CIPD awards are a chance for exceptional individuals and outstanding organisations to be recognised for their unique contribution to the HR discipline.

Today more than ever before, the HR function needs to be fully integrated into the business. Being at the forefront of the organisation means it can drive cross functional improvements to maximise efficiency, while ensuring that employee engagement, talent management and retention receive a greater strategic focus.

Much is asked of the HR department and it is also critical that they have the skills required to consistently perform. Providing a vital input in planning processes and identifying and developing talent have been the key themes of the past twelve months, HR will continue to make a valuable contribution in 2013 by ensuring people led innovation remains at the centre of decision making.

Winning a CIPD award can make a significant impact on an individual's career or an organisation's prospects in the marketplace. We anticipate that this year's awards will once again be a huge success and we're looking forward to highlighting some of the regions top talent over the next few months.