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Modern Apprentice awarded for Cultivating Top Skills

Horticulture Modern Apprentice, Ryan Mooney from New Stevenson, was named the 'Skills Development Scotland's Modern Apprenticeship Awards' Level 2 Apprentice of the Year for his work with North Lanarkshire Council.

Willie Fergusson, National Director for Lantra Sector Skills Council was an adjudicator for the awards, he said: "These highly prestigious awards not only recognise the dedication that Modern Apprentices have, but also shows the public the great impact they have on Scotland's economy. Lantra works to support skills development in the land-based and environmental sector, so it was fantastic to be involved with these awards and see the contribution they are making."

An 18-year-old rugby coach was named as the country's top apprentice at Skills Development Scotland's Modern Apprenticeship Awards. Thomas Davidson, a talented young sportsman was chosen from 15 Scottish finalists as the country's Modern Apprentice of the Year. In addition to this prestigious award, Thomas also picked up the award for the non-traditional sector category at the SQA sponsored event in Glasgow.

Willie continued: "I would like to congratulate Ryan, Thomas and all of the winners of this year's awards. These young people must be supported as they are the future workforce of Scotland."

A Modern Apprenticeship is a package of learning and qualifications combined with practical work experience gained through employment in a chosen industry. Many businesses offer Modern Apprentice places across Scotland because they understand the benefits that apprentices bring. If you would like to find out more about the programme contact Skills Development Scotland on 0141 285 6000

To find out more about skills in land-based and environmental industries or about Lantra's work, call 01738 553311 or email Lantra.scotland@lantra.co.uk

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EDITORS NOTES:

- Lantra is the Sector Skills Council for land-based and environmental industries, working to ensure these businesses access the training, qualifications, skills and knowledge they need.
- An independent UK organisation, Lantra works with employers and the UK's governments to address the skills and productivity needs of approximately 230 businesses (one in every ten UK businesses) in: agriculture; animal care; animal technology; aquaculture; environmental conservation; equine; farriery; fencing; fisheries management; floristry; game and wildlife management; land-based engineering; horticulture, landscape and sports turf; production horticulture; trees and timber and veterinary nursing.
- By working together with the sector, Lantra leads research on skills issues and business needs, sets national standards and develops qualifications to meet modern business needs and help businesses grow through skills.
- For more information see www.lantra.co.uk