

PRESS RELEASE

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Bus finalists drawing closer to M.A.D Awards

A bus driver from the South East has been recognised for going the extra mile by being named as a finalist at bus operator Arriva's annual Made A Difference Awards, Driver of the Year.

Elaine Schuster, of Gravesend, received the highest number of nominations from hundreds of drivers across the South East to make it to the glittering awards ceremony on 20 April.

Each year Arriva buses opens the bus driver of the year award to its customers, giving everyone in the South East the chance to share stories of their dedicated drivers. Elaine, who has been with Arriva since December 2015, said it was "a surprise and honour to be nominated".

She was described as "always having a smile on her face" by the public and will join the rest of the top regional drivers being celebrated during the much anticipated ceremony, where an overall national Bus Champion will be announced.

Elaine was selected from a list of four shortlisted drivers, including Anthony Mulligan, Michelle Lucas and Dee Willmore. Arriva's M.A.D Awards, now in its fifth year, are a national recognition programme which looks at all elements of the bus company, including engineering, depot management and back office functions.

Gillian Singh, Marketing and NPD Director at Arriva UK Bus, said: "Each year the awards get bigger and better and we've received some fantastic feedback from the public about all of our drivers in every region. It's a testament to Elaine she's made it to the final and is being recognised for all of her hard work and excellent public customer service.



“Getting our customers to share these stories and nominate gives recognition to drivers who genuinely do go that extra mile just because they care.”

For more information please visit www.arrivabus.co.uk

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Notes to editors

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About Arriva UK Bus

Arriva UK Bus is part of Arriva plc, one of the largest passenger transport providers in Europe, employing some 54,500 people and delivering more than 2.2 billion passenger journeys across 14 European countries every year. It currently operates a fleet of some 5,900 vehicles in the UK alone, providing services in the North East, North West and South East of England, Yorkshire, the Midlands and Wales.

In addition to the Arriva-branded networks, it also operates locally branded bus services including Hinckleybus, Yorkshire Tiger, Network Colchester and Green Line, which provides regular coach services between central London and the Home Counties.

In 2010, Arriva was acquired by Deutsche Bahn, and is now responsible for the growth and development of all Deutsche Bahn’s regional passenger transport outside of Germany.

