National gong for South Infirmary hospital

CORK'S South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital (SIUVH) has won a national award for best hygiene and food safety. The National Q Mark standard guarantees staff, patients, and visitors that the hospital operates what's known as a continuous improvement programme for hygiene and food safety in their kitchens. It means that 100% of their systems, processes and procedures are monitored for best practice. The Q Mark standard also operates at a higher level than current legislative requirements. It is the fourth year in a row that the SIVUH has achieved this mark. Their catering team in the hospital are responsible for the food provided to the 24,500 admissions and 54,000 outpatients and thousands of visitors that the hospital gets each year. Pauline Hannafin, the hospital's Catering and Household Manager, said that she was very proud of her team's commitment to providing the very best quality and excellence to their customers. "This is our seventh time being nominated for this award demonstrating our continuous commitment to quality and excellence in hygiene and food safety," she said. The Managing Director of The National Q Mark, Irene Collins said: "Pauline and the team in South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital are no strangers to the winner's stage because they believe that Excellence is a gradual result of always striving to do better."