

# 'LOCAL AUTHORITY OF THE YEAR'

## MONAGHAN MAKES ITS MARK IN 2017

Monaghan County Council has been named 'Local Authority of the Year' at the 14th Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards. The awards ceremony, held in association with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, again showcased and celebrated the best of local government in Ireland.



Ian Talbot, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland said, "The Excellence in Local Government Awards demonstrate how each year local authorities work consistently to deliver services and initiatives that sustain, enhance and support our communities and local economies."

He congratulated Monaghan County Council, the 16 category winners, shortlisted organisations and the people who made all these projects and activities happen.

"Monaghan County Council has shown exceptional leadership through a vision for the future development of the locality and the broader economic region," Talbot noted.

He added that Monaghan demonstrated tremendous ambition and capacity for innovation across numerous projects and was, therefore, recognised for its willingness to share best practice with peers.

"The drive to continuously improve and deliver better services to citizens makes Monaghan a worthy winner of the 'Local Authority of the Year' award."

Monaghan's Cathaoirleach Cllr Cathy Bennett, who accepted the award on behalf of Monaghan County Council, acknowledged the commitment and dedication of all staff in the delivery of services for the people and businesses in County



*Pictured (l-r): Ian Talbot, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland, Damien English TD, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal, Monaghan's Cathaoirleach Cllr Cathy Bennett, John Clancy, Vodafone Ireland, and Eamonn O'Sullivan, Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council.*

Monaghan.

Chief Executive Eamonn O'Sullivan thanked council staff for their support and hard work in "maintaining and delivering services and initiatives to local communities throughout the county".

#### SUPPORTING LOCAL AUTHORITIES

John Clancy, Head of Public Sector Business, Vodafone Ireland said, "We are delighted to sponsor the Chambers Ireland's

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS



*Ian Talbot, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland, Damien English TD, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal, pictured with representatives from Monaghan County Council, who also picked up the Joint Local Authority Initiative Award (sponsored by EirGrid) for the Cavan and Monaghan Science Festival.*

Excellence in Local Government Awards 2017. This unique and important event recognises and celebrates the work that the local authorities contribute to communities all over Ireland.

He added, "As Ireland's leading total communications provider, we have made significant investment to expand its technology offering within the public sector. We are committed to supporting local authorities by providing a range of market leading communications to enhance efficiencies across local government operations, consumers and all types of businesses all over the country."

Minister of State for Housing and Urban Development, Damien English TD, described the awards as "an opportunity" for each local authority to showcase to the public the hard work being undertaken year on year.

"It is important to recognise and reward the work of local authorities, which is making a real impact and delivering tangible benefits for people in our communities."

This year a total of 16 awards, plus the overall award for 'Local Authority of the Year' were presented. Individual awards were sponsored by Lidl, ESB Networks, Healthy Ireland, Fáilte Ireland, AIB, LGiU Ireland, ERP, Waterford Crystal, Zurich, EirGrid, SIRO, Vodafone, Ervia, Shell E&P Ireland and An Post. Specially commissioned crystal awards designed by Waterford Crystal were presented to the winners on the night.



**Chambers  
Ireland**  
Advancing business together

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2017 AWARD WINNERS

**Supporting Active Communities Award (sponsored by Lidl)**

Cork County Council – Dunmanway Community Garden – By the Community, for the Community, in the Heart of the Community

**Best Practice in Citizen Engagement Award (sponsored by ESB Networks):**

South Dublin County Council – €300K – Have Your Say!

**Health & Wellbeing Award (sponsored by Healthy Ireland)**

Mayo County Council – Men on the Move

**Supporting Tourism Award (sponsored by Fáilte Ireland)**

Waterford City & County Council – Waterford Greenway

**Promoting Economic Development Award (sponsored by AIB)**

Limerick City & County Council – Regeneration Programme: Model of pathways to employment in the hospitality and catering industry

**Local Authority Innovation Award (sponsored by LGiU Ireland)**

Cork City Council – Competitive Dialogue Housing Delivery Process

**Sustainable Environment Award (sponsored by ERP)**

Kerry County Council – MacGillycuddy Reeks Habitat and Trail Repair Project – a Collaborative Rural Economic Development Zone (REDZ) initiative

**Best Library Service Award (sponsored by Waterford Crystal)**

Kildare County Council – Support to Secondary Schools Programme

**Sustaining the Arts Award (sponsored by Zurich)**

Longford County Council – [www.virtualwriter.ie](http://www.virtualwriter.ie)

**Joint Local Authority Initiative Award (sponsored by EirGrid)**

Monaghan County Council – Cavan and Monaghan Science Festival

**Festival of the Year Award (sponsored by Fáilte Ireland)**

Donegal County Council – SEA SESSIONS Surf and Music Festival

**Outstanding Customer Service Award (sponsored by SIRO)**

Limerick City & County Council – [Limerick.ie](http://Limerick.ie)

**Enhancing the Urban Environment Award (sponsored by Vodafone)**

Offaly County Council – Revitalising Birr by improving the way its public realm functions

**Heritage and Built Environment Award (sponsored by Ervia)**

Cork County Council – Spike Island, Cork Harbour

**Disability Services Provision Award (sponsored by Shell E&P Ireland)**

Cork City Council – Hollyhill Library Services for Children with Autism

**Commemorations and Centenaries Award (sponsored by An Post)**

Cavan County Council – Cavan County Museum's Commemoration Education Programme