

LIMERICK LANDS 'COUNCIL OF THE YEAR' AWARD 2019

Limerick City & County Council was named 'Council of the Year' award and also was the winner in the 'Best Business Working with the Community' category, at the 2019 All Ireland Community & Council Awards, presented by IPB Insurance and LAMA (Local Authority Members Association).



Limerick City and County Council was crowned Council of the Year in recognition of the range and depth of projects which the council is involved in with communities across Limerick city and county.

Other Limerick winners on the night were 'Urban Co-op' taking gold in the 'Best Business Working with the Community' category, while 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Limerick' got the silver award in the 'Best Community Health Initiative' category.

Mayor of the City and County of Limerick Cllr James Collins said: "Being chosen as 'Council of the Year' shows the important work being done by groups across communities in the city and county. It is important that the council listens to communities and build up trust so that areas can be developed together."

He also noted that projects like the 'Urban Co-op' and 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly' are simple ideas that have resulted in great benefits for the people of Limerick. "They are great examples in the area of community development."

Conn Murray, Chief Executive of Limerick City and County Council, said it was fantastic for Limerick to be shortlisted for nine awards. "The 'Council of the Year' win highlights and validates the hard work and dedication of council staff, in conjunction with communities across the city and county."

COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS

Over 180 entries were received across 20 categories for the 2019 All Ireland Community & Council (LAMA) Awards. Now in their 13th year, the awards again acknowledged achievements by local community and county councils, partnerships and projects.

Following a rigorous judging process over 100 projects nationwide from 23 counties were shortlisted for the gala awards ceremony, with 12 overall winners subsequently announced at a gala ceremony in Croke Park Stadium on Saturday 9 February, by RTÉ's Marty Morrissey.



Representatives from Limerick City & County Council at the LAMA Awards 2019 presentation to accept the 'Council of the Year' Award.



Limerick's council representatives who picked up the award for Urban Co-op' in the 'Best Business Working with the Community' category (sponsored by An Post), pictured with Cllr Mags Murray, LAMA Executive Chairperson.

2019 COMMUNITY & COUNCIL AWARD WINNERS

Grand Prix Award Sponsored by IPB Insurance
 Winner Sports Unit, Louth County Council, Sports Inclusion Disability Programme (Louth County Council)

Council of the Year Sponsored by IPB Insurance
 Winner Limerick City & County Council

Best Arts/Culture
 Winner Kenmare Halloween Howl (Kerry County Council)
 Silver Award Summer in Bray (Wicklow County Council)

Best Business Working with the Community Sponsored by An Post
 Winner The Urban Co-op (Limerick City & County Council)
 Silver Award Ray of Sunshine After School Services (Wicklow County Services)

Best Community Based Initiative
 Winner The Best Years of Our Lives Have Yet to Come' (Cavan County Council)
 Silver Award Athboy HUB (Meath County Council)

Best Community Health Initiative Sponsored by Healthy Ireland
 Winner MEDEX Programme (South Dublin County Council)
 Silver Award We're Breast Feeding Friendly Limerick (Limerick City & County Council)

Best Community Sports Team/Club
 Winner Westport Leisure Park Running Club (Mayo County Council)

Best Connected Council (Communications & Digital Marketing)
 Winner mydoorstep.ie (South Dublin County Council)

Best CSR Community Programme
 Winner Intel Biodiversity and Sustainable Communities (Kildare County Council)

Best Disability Access & Inclusion Initiative
 Winner Sports Unit, Louth County Council Sports Inclusion Disability Programme
 Silver Award The Mall Shared Space (Kerry County Council)

Best Education/Training Initiative
 Winner KWETB – Riverwalk Cafe – Culinary Entrepreneurship (Wicklow County Council)

Best Education Building
 Winner Coláiste Dún Rí Kingscourt (Cavan County Council)
 Silver Award Middleton Educate Together National School (Cork County Council)

Best Energy Smart Initiative
 Winner Fingal County Council Installs Electric Vehicle Charging

on the Public Street Lighting System

Best Environmental/Ecological Project/initiative
 Winner The Derryvalley Catchment Project (Monaghan County Council)
 Silver Award Circular Ocean (Cork County Council)

Best Heritage Project
 Winner Athenry Town Walls Conservation, Management and Interpretation Project (Galway County Council)
 Silver Award The Norman Way (Wexford County Council)

Best Local Authority Innovation for Attracting Inward Investment
 Winner Economic Infrastructure – Innovation hubs (Kerry County Council)

Best Public Park
 Winner St Catherine's Park, Dublin 15 (Fingal County Council)

Best Social Housing Initiative Sponsored by GeoDirectory
 Winner Ó Cualann Cohousing Alliance, Baile na Laochra Cooperative Affordable Housing (Dublin City Council)
 Silver Award The Tubber Hill Housing Scheme and Master Plan (Mayo County Council)

Best Tourism Initiative Sponsored by Fóilte Ireland
 Winner South and West Sligo Tourism (Sligo County Council)
 Silver Award Bray Air Display (Wicklow County Council)

Best Waste Management Programme
 Winner www.repairmystuff.ie (Monaghan County Council)
 Silver Award Zero Waste (Tipperary County Council)

Community Volunteer of the Year
 Sponsored by Repak
 Winner Larry Magnier (Louth County Council)
 Silver Award Mindzenty Finnegan (Monaghan County Council)

Emergency Response Team of the Year
 Winner Irish Community Rapid Response (Cork County Council)

Special Recognition Award
 Winner Donegal County Council's Flood Response at Inishowen, August 2017
Special Recognition Award (Individual)
 Winner Denis Heffernan (Tipperary County Council)

National Impact Award
 Winner Use Your Brain Not Your Fist (Leitrim County Council)

Best Social Enterprise of the Year
 Sponsored by Social Innovation Fund
 Winner MyMind (Dublin City Council)