

# CARLOW CELEBRATES PRIDE IN TOWN PREMISES

Six enterprises have been celebrated for their pride in Carlow Town's streets by receiving the inaugural 'Pride of Carlow Premises' awards presented recently in the Waterfront Building by Carlow Town Development Forum.

The first-ever 'Pride of Carlow Premises' awards were judged by JP Kennedy, Managing Director at TileStyle Limited, Dublin 24 and Chairman of Retail Excellence Ireland, and Carol Smyth, Executive Planner with Dublin City Council's Planning Department.

The awards were designed by the Carlow Town Development Forum as part of its schedule of projects for 2019 which aim to increase pride in Carlow as a "place to live, work, play, learn and visit".

Speaking at the presentation of awards, Gerry Dunne from Carlow Tutorial College and a member of Carlow Town Development Forum, said: "We are delighted to support and design a process to celebrate the efforts of business owners like us across the Town who make significant effort in the appearance of their premises."

He added: "We look forward to the next phase of this project in the roll out of a Shop Front Upgrade Scheme which gives six business owners an opportunity to upgrade their premises with significant support from Carlow County Council. I encourage people to apply for the new upgrade scheme and work with us on building Carlow as a great experience for all."

## SHOP FRONT UPGRADES

Kathleen Holohan, Chief Executive of Carlow County Council, and chairperson of the Carlow Town Development Forum, congratulated each award winner for their ongoing effort in enhancing the streetscape in the county town, and for taking significant pride in their premises.

"I wish to thank our independent judges and acknowledge the 23 premises that were selected by the judges as excellent examples of shop design and display." Speaking about the new Shop Front Upgrade Scheme, she added: "Carlow County Council is delighted to work with the business community to put this support in place. And the council is committed to Carlow Town Development Forum and also the Regeneration of Carlow Town."

Pierce Kavanagh, Economic Development Officer in Carlow County Council's Local Enterprise Office, said: "The scheme has been designed to offer €2,500 to six selected enterprises to upgrade their shop fronts to a traditional shop front. The grant awardees will be announced on Wednesday 1 May."



Kathleen Holohan, Chief Executive of Carlow County Council and chairperson of the Carlow Town Development Forum (third from left) pictured with the 'Pride of Carlow Premises' award winners – O'Brien's (Potato Market); Macs Menswear (Lower Tullow Street/Castle Street); Red Setter Guesthouse (Dublin Street); Moda (Kennedy Avenue); Neighbourhood Espresso (Barrack Street) and Teach Dolmen (Tullow Street Upper).