

FINALISTS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS 2021

A total of 90 projects from 20 local authorities have been announced as finalists for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021, following the release of this year's shortlist by Chambers Ireland. The winners will be announced at an online awards ceremony on Thursday 18 November.

This year's Excellence in Local Government Awards will again be held in partnership with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, highlighting the positive impact of local government across Ireland.

The Minister for Local Government and Planning, Peter Burke TD, said that in another year that has had many challenges, local authorities have continued to be at the forefront of serving our communities, the arm of the state closest to the citizen.

"The agility of our local authorities is self-evident again this year as we see the continued delivery of excellent and innovative services to local communities nationwide. These awards provide a platform to showcase the activities of



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our local authorities, allowing us to display and publicly acknowledge the hard work that is done by officials, community groups and their partners in local government, often carried out quietly and behind the scenes.

"From projects involving our environment, the economy, communities, and the well-being of our citizens to name but a few, we can see the wide range of skills and expertise present in our local authorities and the creativity

shown in the face of adversity."

The Minister thanked all city and county councils for their work over the past year and congratulated them on the frontline projects they have designed and brought to fruition.

RESPONDING TO RAPID CHANGES
Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland, Ian Talbot said: "As an organisation that represents both businesses and communities across Ireland, we have a deep appreciation for the role played by local government in delivering the infrastructure and services needed by towns and cities in every part of the country.

"This has become particularly clear over the last 18 months as local authorities responded to a rapidly changing situation. While this was a significant test for all, we



"Over the last 18 months local councils have responded to a rapidly changing situation" – Ian Talbot, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland

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Mayo County Council made its mark last year by winning the 'Local Authority of the Year' award in addition to a record number of wins across three categories and was also shortlisted in two other categories.

can see from the strength of submissions that local government came through this period with flying colours.

"In that context, this year's awards represent an important opportunity to thank all council members and staff for their resilience and hard work. Our communities are stronger for their

efforts, and we look forward to recognising their achievements in November."

For further information and updates visit www.chambers.ie/events/elg-awards/.

A SHORTLIST OF THE FINALISTS FOR 2021



Supporting Sustainable Communities

Clare County Council – Cappa Village Enhancement strategy
Fingal County Council – Gearing Up For Training
Laois County Council – Abbeyleix Community Climate Action Project
Monaghan County Council – County Monaghan Wetland Action Plan
South Dublin County Council – Redevelopment of Killinarden Park and new Green Link

Best Practice in Community Engagement

Cork City Council – Engaging with Young People on the Future of the City
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council – County Development Plan Virtual Public Consultation
Limerick City and County Council – First Issues Consultation – Limerick Development Plan 2022-2028
South Dublin County Council – South Dublin County Council Development Plan (CDP) Public Consultation
Wicklow County Council – 'Include Me' Visibility Campaign

Health & Wellbeing

Clare County Council – 'Not Around Us' Towards a Tobacco/Vape Free Clare campaign
Cork City Council – Sports on the Green
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown – Cuairt agus Cultúr 2020
South Dublin County Council – Zooming through Lockdown
Wicklow County Council – Virtual Couch to 3K – Walk to Jog Programme

Supporting Tourism

Clare County Council – Share Clare Tourism Marketing 'Resource Bank'
Kerry County Council – Safe Destination Kerry Programme
Limerick City and County Council – 50 Days of Summer
Monaghan County Council – The Patrick Kavanagh Centre and the branded Kavanagh Trail
South Dublin County Council – The Dodder Greenway
Wexford County Council – The Celtic Routes Project

Promoting Economic Development

Cork City Council – Parklet Partners Project
Donegal County Council – #BuyDonegal
Limerick City and County Council – Happen- Mid West Network of Co-Workspaces
Mayo County Council – Mayo – A World Class Place to do Business
Monaghan County Council – Monaghan Town Voucher
Tipperary County Council – Nenagh Live

Local Authority Innovation

Clare County Council – Online Ethics Register
Fingal County Council – Inside Fingal Podcast
Kerry County Council – Supplygov.ie – Dynamic Purchasing System for Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Works
Kildare County Council – Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme
Limerick City and County Council – 'Council Connect' Staff app
Longford County Council – Longford County Council Strategy

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and Guidance for Rural Working Hubs
Meath County Council – MCC Connect App
Monaghan County Council – Virtual Reality 360-degree tour and house inspection app
Roscommon County Council – My Online Services
South Dublin County Council – Tallaght District Heating Network

Sustainable Environment

Clare County Council – Demonstration of biodiversity management in public open space/recreational areas
Cork City Council – Climate Action Committee – Local Scale Air Quality Monitoring System
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council – dlr's Coastal Mobility Route
Kildare County Council – Kildare Green Kilometre
Monaghan County Council – Reclaimed Asphalt Pilot Scheme
South Dublin County Council – SDCC Pollinator Action Plan 2021 – 2025

Best Library Service

Cavan County Council – Cavan Library Covid-19 Book Delivery Service
Cork City Council – From the Jaws of Disaster: Douglas Library's amazing rebuild
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council – dlr Scéal Trail (Story Walk)
Kildare County Council – 'Supporting Families, Sharing the Learning'
Meath County Council – Laptops for Loan
South Dublin County Council – The Creative Studio as part of NCL (North Clondalkin Library)

Sustaining the Arts

Cork City Council – Cork City Street Arts Development Programme
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council – dlr Artworks Home
Fingal County Council – Transcending Time – Artist Aoife Dunne
Kildare County Council – Kildare Covid Notebook project
Meath County Council – RE:Form

Age Friendly Initiative

Clare County Council – Clare Digital Smartphone Project for Older People
Cork City Council – Cork City's Age Friendly Covid Response
Meath County Council – Purls of Wisdom – Joint Age Friendly & Climate Action
Monaghan County Council – It's Good to Talk GAA
South Dublin County Council – Policy for Rightsizing and Allocation of Age Friendly Accommodation

Festival of the Year

Cavan County Council – Cavan Day 2020
Cork City Council – Re-imagine GLOW 2020
Limerick City & Council Council – Limerick St Patrick's Festival 2021: Tune in to Take Part
Monaghan County Council – Cavan Monaghan Online Science

Festival 2020
South Dublin County Council – (SnaGÁCT) Seachtain na Gaeilge Átha Cliath Theas
Wexford County Council – New Ross Christmas Festival 2020

Initiatives through the Municipal Districts

Clare County Council – Restructuring of Municipal Districts to improve community and economic outcomes
Meath County Council – Meath County Council Municipal District Allocation Scheme
Monaghan County Council – Clones Town Interactive Heritage Tour

Enhancing the Urban Environment

Clare County Council – Drain art – Ennis
Cork City Council – Re-Opening a More Resilient Cork City Centre
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council – Blackrock Village – Liveable Space
Kildare County Council – Kildare Market Square Tactical Urbanism Covid-19 Response Pilot Project
Kilkenny County Council – Ferrybank Neighbourhood Park
Tipperary County Council – Interreg North-West Europe (NWE) Smart Space Project

Heritage and Built Environment

Cork City Council – Infill Housing Conservation Project, 5-6 Shandon Street & JP Curran St
Fingal County Council – Swords Castle Conservation Project
Limerick City & County Council – Limerick Greenway – Barnagh Station House Building Revival
Monaghan County Council – The Carrickmacross Workhouse – Visitor Interpretation & Education Project
South Dublin County Council – Grange Castle Pocket Park

Disability Services Provision

Cork City Council – A Space for All – Tory Top Library Community Garden
Fingal County Council – DigiFit For All
Monaghan County Council – My Right to Vote – General Election voter education
Wicklow County Council – Inclusive Online Easter Camp

Commemorations & Centenaries

Cavan County Council – Bringing History to Life Despite the Odds!
Cork City Council – Cork City Council's Decade of Centenaries Programme
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council – What's in a name? Dun Leary–Kingstown – Dún Laoghaire
Longford County Council – County Longford Decade of Centenaries Programme, 2020-21
Monaghan County Council – Monaghan's War of Independence 1919 – 1921
Wicklow County Council – Wicklow and the War of Independence: The Historians' Project