

FOCUS ON PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECT AT ICSH AWARDS

The Overall Winner of the ICSH Allianz Community Housing Awards 2019 was Focus Housing Association for the rapid delivery of its permanent housing project on John’s Lane West in Dublin. The development has the huge potential to be replicated throughout the country, according to the judging panel.

Over 50 entries and schemes of outstanding quality were submitted to the ICSH Allianz Community Housing Awards, and according to Dr Donal McManus, Chief Executive of the Irish Council for Social Housing (ICSH), the support of Rebuilding Ireland in delivering these projects was recognised by his organisation,

“Focus Housing Association was chosen as the overall winner for its project on John’s Lane West in Dublin 8 for many reasons. What stood out for judges was the high-quality design and excellent use of a very challenging site, and the delivery of 31 units of permanent housing in an area of huge demand for housing and homeless services,” he added.

The outcomes for tenants were crucial in the final decision of the judging panel. One tenant had previously lived in a B&B for two years immediately prior to moving to John’s Lane. The judges commended Focus Housing Association for the rapid delivery of this scheme, which they see as having huge potential for replication throughout the country.

LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE HOMES

Jan Mingle of Focus Housing Association said it was always their intention to transform the building into long-term sustainable homes. “We see this award as a powerful endorsement of our work, and acknowledge the support of Dublin City Council and the Housing Finance

Agency in bringing this project to fruition.”

Producer and broadcaster, Brendan Courtney, presented the ICSH Community Housing Awards 2019. Brendan’s documentary work in 2019 had a particular focus on housing affordability as well as the complex housing needs of older people.

Alongside the overall winner, ten additional projects received awards for housing initiatives for older people and families, homeless projects, housing for people with disabilities, regeneration, most creative supply response, collaboration initiatives, community integration, housing management and achievements in community housing.



OVERALL AWARD WINNER: ICSH’s Chief Executive Dr Donal McManus and Chairperson Pat Doyle, Chief Executive of Peter McVerry Trust; Giselle Han Malone, Focus Housing Association (FHA); Gary Falconer, C.J. Falconer & Associates; James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor); Wexford Mayor Cllr George Lawlor, and FHA’s Jan Mingle, Liz Carey and Padhraig McKernan.

ICSH Category Winners for 2019:

- **Homeless Projects:** Focus Housing Association, John's Lane West, Dublin 8 (Overall Winner)
- **Housing for Older People (Small Scheme):** Bandon Geriatric and Community Council
- **Housing for Older People (Larger Scheme):** Cork City Council and Tuath Housing, Arus Mhuire, Skehard Road, Blackrock, Cork
- **Housing for People with Disabilities:** Irish Wheelchair Association, Na Fraoch, Logmore, Belmullet, Co. Mayo
- **Housing for Families:** Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, George's Place
- **Regeneration:** Peter McVerry Trust, St Agatha's Court, Dublin 1
- **Most Creative Supply Response:** Tuath Housing and Dublin City Council, Harold's Court
- **Collaboration:** Cork City Council and Clúid Housing's Leaside Apartments
- **Community Integration:** Foscadh Housing, Liath Bhreaga, Drogheda
- **Achievement in Community Housing:** Sean Kelleher and Dan Dineen of Coiste Tithe Uibh Laoire, Ballingeary, Macroom, Co. Cork.
- **Housing Management:** Clare County Council



Presenting the ICSH Community Housing Awards 2019, producer and broadcaster Brendan Courtney, whose own documentary work in 2019 has had a particular focus on housing affordability as well as the complex housing needs of older people.



HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE (SMALL SCHEME): Bandon Geriatric and Community Council, Co. Cork: ICSH CEO Dr Donal McManus; Chair and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust Pat Doyle; George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Gerry Mehigan, Bandon Geriatric and Community Council; and James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).



HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: Irish Wheelchair Association, Na Fraoch, Logmore, Belmullet, Co. Mayo: Dr Donal McManus, ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chairperson and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Irish Wheelchair Association's Tony Cunningham, Rosaleen Lally, Eamon Murphy, Dolores Murphy, and Allianz's James Gleeson (awards sponsor); at the front: IWA's Teresa Gaughan and Julian Mahady.



HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE (LARGER SCHEME): Cork City Council and Tuath Housing, Arus Mhuire, Skehard Road, Blackrock, Cork: Dr Donal McManus, ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chair and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Cork City Council's Cllr Terry Shannon and Alison O'Rourke, Senior Executive Officer; Jennifer Ring Manager at Túath Housing; Brian Geaney, Director of Housing at Cork City Council; and James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).



HOUSING FOR FAMILIES: Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, George's Place: Dr Donal McManus ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chairperson and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Wexford Mayor Cllr George Lawlor; Dun Laoghaire Rathdown's Cllr Deirdre Donnelly; James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor); Helen Griffin and Brendan Egan, DLR County Council.



REGENERATION: Peter McVerry Trust, St Agatha's Court, Dublin 1: Dr Donal McManus ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chair and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Liz Peña from the Trust; Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Brian Friel, Peter McVerry Trust; and James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).



MOST CREATIVE SUPPLY RESPONSE: Tuath Housing and Dublin City Council, Harold's Court: Dr Donal McManus ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chair and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Fiona and Bronagh D'Arcy, Tuath Housing; Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Dáithí Downey, Dublin City Council; and James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).



COMMUNITY INTEGRATION: Foscadh Housing, Liath Bhreaga, Drogheda, Co Louth: Dr Donal McManus ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chairperson and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Helen Doogan, Foscadh Housing; Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Foscadh Housing's Ken Ó Héiligh, Colm Ó Maolmhuire and Naoimh O'Brien, and James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).



ACHIEVEMENT IN COMMUNITY HOUSING: Coiste Tithe Uibh Laoire, Macroom, Co. Cork: Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford, pictured with Sean Kelleher and Dan Dineen, Coiste Tithe Uibh Laoire, Ballingeary, Macroom, Co. Cork, at the ICSH Community Housing Awards 2019.



COLLABORATION: Cork City Council and Clúid Housing's Leaside Apartments: John Cottrell, Clúid Housing; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chair and CEO of Peter McVerry Trust; Dr Donal McManus, ICSH CEO; Cllr George Lawlor, Mayor of Wexford; Cork City Council's Cllr Terry Shannon, Brian Geaney, Director of Housing, and Alison O'Rourke, Senior Executive Officer; Clúid Housing's Fiona Cormican and James O'Halloran, with James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).



HOUSING MANAGEMENT: Clare County Council: Dr Donal McManus ICSH CEO; Pat Doyle, ICSH Chair and CEO of the Peter McVerry Trust; Siobhán McNulty, Clare County Council, Wexford Mayor Cllr George Lawlor; Anne Haugh and Tony Neville Clare County Council, James Gleeson, Allianz (awards sponsor).