

FINGAL WINS ‘LOCAL AUTHORITY OF THE YEAR’

Fingal County Council was named ‘Local Authority of the Year’ at the 16th Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, and also picked up two category awards for ‘Best Practice in Citizen Engagement’ and the ‘Festival of the Year’.

This is the third time in 11 years that Fingal County Council has been named ‘Local Authority of the Year’ at the Excellence in Local Government Awards having previously received the accolade in 2009 and 2016. And the North Dublin local authority also won two out of the 11 different categories in which it had been nominated.

On accepting the award the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr O’Brien, said it was a huge honour for Fingal County Council, its elected members and its staff. “It is extremely humbling to be recognised as the best council in Ireland, especially in the year that we celebrate our 25th anniversary.”

Fingal’s Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly said it was recognition of the excellent work by both elected members on a daily basis on behalf of the citizens of Fingal. “It also shows we are a progressive council and always looking for new and better ways to deliver our services.”

Congratulating Fingal County Council on winning the award for the second time in four years, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland, Ian Talbot, said: “Fingal County Council has shown engagement across the different facets of the Fingal Community, and with the development and sustainability of Fingal’s localities and environment, to achieve this accolade.

“For their commitment to serving their community, and also raising their area’s profile nationally as a stand-out destination, Fingal County Council deserves to be commended. Congratulations to Fingal County



Fingal’s Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly and Mayor Cllr Eoghan O’Brien were presented with the overall award by Chambers Ireland President Siobhan Kinsella, with Ian Talbot, Chambers Chief Executive (left) and John Paul Phelan, TD, Minister of State for the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (right) at the Awards Banquet in in Santry on 28 November 2019.



Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Eoghan O’Brien collected the award for ‘Best Practice in Citizen Engagement’ with the Balbriggan team and Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly.



Fingal’s Chief Executive, AnnMarie Farrelly, collected the ‘Festival of the Year’ award alongside Fingal’s Events Team and the Mayor Cllr. Eoghan O’Brien.

Council, the 16 category winners, the shortlisted organisations and to those behind these excellent projects.”

Minister of State for Local Government and Electoral Reform, John Paul Phelan TD, said the annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards offer an opportunity to acknowledge those in local authorities, elected members and officials, who continue to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of Ireland’s changing communities.

The 16th Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards was again held in association with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to showcase the best of local government in Ireland.

A total of 16 awards were presented on the night plus the overall award for Local Authority of the Year. Individual awards were sponsored by European Recycling Platform (ERP), TEKenable, Healthy Ireland, LGiU Ireland, Fáilte Ireland and EirGrid, while the crystal awards designed by Waterford Crystal were presented to all winners on the night.



Supporting Tourism (Joint) - South Dublin County Council



Supporting Tourism (Joint) - Kerry County Council



Health & Wellbeing - Cork City Council



Supporting Active Communities - Cork County Council

LOCAL AUTHORITY AWARD WINNERS

Local Authority of the Year: Fingal County Council

Supporting Active Communities: Cork County Council – Blackwater and Creativity in County Cork

Best Practice in Citizen Engagement: Fingal County Council – Our Balbriggan: Imagine the Possibilities – Get Involved

Health & Wellbeing: Cork City Council – Cork Sanctuary Runners Supporting Tourism

JOINT WINNERS

Kerry County Council: From Berlin to Kerry

South Dublin County Council: The Round Tower, Visitor Centre, Clondalkin – Brú Chrónáin

Promoting Economic Development: Cork County Council – Bridge to Masschallenge Cork Programme

Local Authority Innovation: Cork City Council – Arus Mhuire Rightsizing Housing Project

Sustainable Environment: Clare County Council – Banner Beekeepers Association Apiary at Doora, Ennis

Best Library Service: Limerick City & County Council – Watch House Cross Community Library Autism Friendly Resource

Sustaining the Arts: Wexford County Council – Arts Ability Programme

Disability Services Provision: Tipperary County Council – Sign of The Times

Festival of the Year: Fingal County Council – Dublin Bay Prawn Festival

Outstanding Initiative through the Municipal Districts: Donegal County Council – Hosting the DDF Irish Open in Inishowen MD – a place mobilised

Enhancing the Urban Environment: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council – Otranto Seaside Gardens

Heritage and Built Environment: Monaghan County Council – The Monaghan Spitfire: Life on the Border with a World at War

Commemorations and Centenaries: Tipperary County Council – Solohead Parish Centenary Soloheadbeg 1919

Age-Friendly Initiative: Mayo County Council – Age Friendly Airport Guidelines



Sustaining the Arts - Wexford County Council



Best Library Service - Limerick City & County Council



Sustainable Environment - Clare County Council



Local Authority Innovation - Cork City Council



Promoting Economic Development - Cork County Council



Disability Services Provision - Tipperary County Council



Heritage & Built Environment - Monaghan County Council



Age Friendly Initiative - Mayo County Council



Enhancing the Urban Environment - Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council



Commemoration & Centenaries - Tipperary County Council



Outstanding Initiative through the Municipal Districts - Donegal County Council