

Tidy Districts Competition 2023

Application form and guidelines





Message from Director of Infrastructure and Climate Change

The Tidy Districts Competition gives Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council an opportunity to reward the many hard-working resident associations and tidy towns groups in the County. It is as much a development programme as it is a competition and results in long term environmental improvements in the estates, towns and villages of the County. The competition has evolved over the years to focus not only on the visual aspect of the tidy district, but also education and awareness.

We continue to support our communities by offering workshops, clean-up materials and funding via the dlr Grant Scheme.

We are delighted to see communities putting such a strong emphasis on managing their estates in a manner that is conscious of our natural heritage and environment.

The efforts of the volunteers are to be commended, who by giving up their own time, help to build community relations. The competition also strives to foster a sense of pride in not only how well a place looks, but in how people feel about their community. These groups take on the responsibility for their own local environments and these efforts build better and more inclusive communities, not only for those who reside there, but for tourists and visitors to the County alike.

I would encourage as many new groups as possible to enter the competition this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all participants in the competition over the years. With the standard increasing year on year, it can't be easy to pick a winner and I wish the participants and judges of the 2023 competition all the very best.

Paul Kennedy,
Director of Services
Infrastructure & Climate Change Dept.

Terms and Conditions

- Applications are invited from housing estates, residential streets and urban town or villages.
- All entrants must include a **map** which clearly indicates the area to be judged (please highlight the roads and open spaces) and the location of any special features.
- Entrants may include supporting documents to support their application and/or clarify particular challenges experienced in the previous 12 months (e.g. before and after photographs). This supporting document should be no longer than **three pages in length**.
- Judging will take place in July and August 2023 as an unannounced visit from the competition judges.
- Judging will not take place during a scheduled local dlr event.
- **The adjudicator's decision is final.** No correspondence regarding the results will be entered into.
- Closing date for receipt of applications is 4pm on **Friday, 23rd of June 2023**. Only completed applications successfully received by the Council can be considered. **Late entries cannot be accepted.**
- Results will be announced in October 2023

How to enter

Completed application forms should be returned by **4pm on Friday, 23rd June 2023** to

- By email: tidydistricts@dlrcoco.ie or
- By post: Environmental Awareness, Infrastructure & Climate Change Department, County Hall, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, A96 K6C9.

All entrants will receive confirmation of receipt within 2 working days. If you do not receive confirmation please contact us immediately on 01-2054700, by email to tidydistricts@dlrcoco.ie or info@dlrcoco.ie.

Category Awards 2023

- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (5-100 dwellings)
- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (101-200 dwellings)
- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (201-350 dwellings)
- Best Housing Estate / Apartment complex (351 dwellings and over)
- Best Estate Management Area (5-250 dwellings)
- Best Estate Management Area (251 dwellings and over)
- Best Town/Village pop (0-3000 people)
- Best Town/Village pop (3001 people and over)
- Most Improved Area(s)
- Best New Entry
- Waste Prevention Award
- Overall Winner Tidy Districts

Tidy Districts 2023 Application Form

Tidy Districts 2023 Application Form			
Group name			
Type of Group (Residents Association, Estate Management, Tidy Towns Group, Tidy Districts Group)			
Group email address			
Group website and social media address (if applicable)			
Address and description of the area to be judged			
Have you included a map? (all entrants must include a map of the area to be judged)			
Last year of entry (e.g. 2019)			
Category of entry (please tick one. If you are unsure, please check with the central statistics office, www.cso.ie)	Housing Estate/Residential Street (Please include the approx. number of households)		
	Urban Town/ Village (Please include the estimated population)		
Contact name			
Contact phone number			
Contact email address			
Contact Postal Address			
Environmental Awareness email regular newsletters and environmental information to community groups. Do you wish for your email address to be included on the Environmental Awareness mailing list? Please list alternate email addresses, if applicable:			Yes
			No
I/We have read the conditions of entry and agree to be bound by the rules and have full authorization from the group to submit this application on their behalf*			
Signed: (digital or handwritten)		Date:	
*Completed entry forms must be authorized by the Chairperson or Secretary of the Resident Association/Community Group.			

Overall appearance of buildings and space

(25 marks)

20 Marks will be awarded for presentation and maintenance of all properties, maintenance of frontages, boundary and gable end walls. Gardens, where applicable, should be presented to a good standard. Please give details of maintenance, weeding, pathcleaning and sweeping, etc. Please specify if it is the Council, a contractor or the residents who are involved in each activity.

5 marks will be awarded for community actions that have been carried out to improve physical streetscape, paving, lighting, signage, local accessibility for all.

Landscaping

(10 marks)

Please give details of notable planted features. Please specify if it is the Council, a contractor or the residents who are involved in each activity.

Improving natural amenities and habitats

(10 marks)

Please outline how you improve natural amenity through planting and maintenance. Do you raise awareness, combat climate issues or support biodiversity, native species or wildlife?

Litter Management

(25 marks)

15 marks awarded for appearance during adjudication and 10 marks are available for awareness, actions and litter control strategies.

Points are available for the absence of litter, fly-posting and dumping, evidence of litter control strategy, litter patrols, community clean-ups and promotion of anti-litter awareness throughout the community.

Graffiti management

(15 marks)

10 marks are available for policies and procedures to manage graffiti and 5 marks are available for appearance during adjudication.

Marks will be awarded for absence of graffiti, evidence of graffiti control strategy, including regular patrols and promotion of anti-graffiti awareness throughout the community.

Community engagement in environmental improvement (15 marks)

10 marks are available for community involvement in environmental actions listed below. Please indicate the level of voluntary commitment (general involvement of the community at clean-ups, planting days, engaging new residents, meetings, etc.).

Do you involve all ages e.g. schools?

5 marks are available for other (non-planting) sustainable community actions not previously outlined in the application e.g. single use plastic free, paper, hosting of environmental talks etc. Please outline the level of voluntary commitment and details of any other sustainable environmental actions in your community.

Communication

(5 marks)

How do you communicate with your community (newsletter, newspapers, public meetings, email, social media, website, etc.)? Do you make an effort to communicate with all ages within the community?

Optional Special Category

Please complete the award category below, if you wish to be considered for the optional waste prevention award.

Waste Prevention Award

/10

Have you reduced waste at your meetings (e.g. reusable plates and cups)? Have you completed an up-cycle project (e.g. a planter made from up-cycled wood, a sign made from up-cycled materials)? Do you take part in any waste campaigns or courses (e.g. single-use plastics, composting, recycling)?

Please outline the efforts that you have taken to save resources by preventing waste