



TidyTowns Newsletter Issue 4 - 2019

Dear TidyTowns Committee,

With signs of autumn becoming more visible with each passing day, our attention now turns to the culmination of all your hard work since June 2018 and to the announcements of this year's results. The awards ceremony for 2019 will be held in the Helix on Monday September 30th. Invitations and tickets to the event have issued by post in the past week so hopefully those of you who have received an invitation will be in a position to attend. Please remember to RSVP if you have not already done so making sure to advise us if you need to reserve space for any wheelchair users.



In addition to the awards ceremony for the national SuperValu TidyTowns competition we also have a number of other award ceremonies coming up in the coming weeks. The awards for this year's Communities in Bloom competition will be announced in Canada on September 28th and we wish Malahide every success in the competition.



We also look forward to the results from the 2019 Entente Florale competition which will be announced also on Saturday September 28th in Haus in Austria. We send our best wishes to Mulranny in Mayo and Listowel in Kerry who will both be attending the ceremony and wish them every success.

National Ploughing Championships 2019

As in previous years the TidyTowns unit of the Department of Rural and Community Development will be in attendance at this year's National Ploughing Championship. This year the event which celebrates its 88th year will take place in Ballintrane, Fenagh in County Carlow.



Visit us in the Community Marquee

Located at Block 4

Row 19

Stand 417

We will be happy to answer any queries you may have or provide guidance or support to you in your TidyTowns initiatives, sadly, though, we will not be able to tell you who the winner is...you will have to wait until September 30th.

Entente Florale 2019

Since our last newsletter a team of judges from countries across Europe received a tremendous welcome in both Listowel in Kerry and Mulranny in Mayo as they conducted their adjudication and jury visit for the Entente Florale 2019 competition. Such a wonderful array of projects were presented in both locations which really showcase the collaboration that exists between the TidyTowns committees, Local Authorities, Local Business and voluntary and community groups. Some splendid images from both centres.



Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities



Minister for Rural and Community Development Michael Ring TD recently published an ambitious five year strategy to support the community and voluntary sector. The strategy sets out how Government will support the sector in the years to come and aims to provide communities with both the means and opportunity to be involved in decisions that affect them, as well as strengthening their representative organisations to facilitate this. It also aims to equip communities directly and through the organisations that support them with the capacity to address the ongoing implications of challenges such as Climate Change and Brexit.

Funding for Climate Change projects open (formerly known as Local Agenda 21 funding)

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment have opened a scheme to support local environmental projects focusing on climate change and biodiversity. The new scheme is called the Community Environment Action fund, and it replaces the Local Agenda 21 Fund.

The fund is open to schools, community groups or clubs who wish to undertake local initiatives to tackle climate change or promote biodiversity. A wide variety of projects and schemes have been supported under the fund in previous years including, community gardens, allotments and compost schemes, rainwater harvesting schemes, educational initiatives and environmental exhibitions. This year's priority is for projects in the area of Climate and Biodiversity.

Groups seeking funding for eligible projects are invited to make an application to their local authority (application forms are available from the local authorities). Completed application forms should be returned to the relevant local authority at the latest by 5pm, 27 September 2019.



Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhait
ar son na hAeráide & Comhsha
Department of Communication
Climate Action & Environment

Social Media

As advised previously the use of social media is ever increasing and is a great vehicle in which to share information. Can we remind you all to follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates and information via the following;



<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialSuperValuTidyTowns>



<https://twitter.com/TidyTownsIre>

As referenced in our last newsletter we would like to feature some of the great work you do throughout the year, so if you have any news features of projects you have undertaken and have some photographs or video clips to share with us, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please forward any items of interest to us at tidytowns@drccd.gov.ie **please note**, only forward material to

us if you are happy for us to share it on our website or social media forums. We are aware of great work being done by communities in the areas of sustainability, inclusivity and biodiversity and so many of you have done great work in association with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, why not share this with us so we can tell everyone else about the fantastic efforts being put in by TidyTowns committees throughout the country.

Logo

We would like to remind all committees that the SuperValu TidyTowns logo has been updated. The logo is shown below and this is the only logo going forward that should be used in all signage, promotions, publications etc. if you require the logo in any particular resolution, please get in touch and we will make it available to you.



If you require any further information please visit our website at www.tidytowns.ie or contact the TidyTowns unit at tidytowns@drcd.gov.ie

We would like to thank each of you for your interest in the SuperValu TidyTowns competition. We wish each of you and your committees every success in the 2019 competition.

The TidyTowns Unit
Department of Rural and Community Development
Government Buildings
Ballina
Co Mayo