



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



# The Climate Action and Air Quality Award



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## About the Award

The Climate Action and Air Quality TidyTowns Special Award is sponsored by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. The overall aim of this award is to recognise the positive contribution your local community is making in raising awareness and taking positive actions in addressing climate change and improving air quality.

Climate change and air quality are key issues for all of us. We must ensure that what we do today does not compromise our environment, but instead enhances it and makes it a place where all generations, current and future, can live sustainable and healthy lives. **Each committee should highlight one key awareness initiative or action in their community** which makes a lasting and positive contribution to meeting the climate change and air quality challenges.

## Competition

We are looking for TidyTowns committees to demonstrate innovative ways in which they have raised awareness to address the challenges of climate change and air quality, and which could be easily replicated by other communities. With our 'Climate Action and Air Quality Award' TidyTowns Special Award we are interested to hear about initiatives where you have:

1. Raised awareness within the community.
2. Encouraged your community to improve the impact of the everyday choices they make.
3. Supported the sustainable use of local resources and a considered approach to protecting the environment.
4. Influenced behaviour change to more environmentally sustainable practices through working together with the wider community

## Prizes

Two prizes of €2,000 will be awarded: one to the best entry from a large town/urban centre, and one for the best entry from a village/small town. There will also be three runner-up prizes of €500 each. Also, recognising the key role of the younger generation, an additional prize of €500 will be awarded to the best entry that can demonstrate a sizable contribution by young people.

## Entry Process

Entries should be emailed to [climateawards@dcae.gov.ie](mailto:climateawards@dcae.gov.ie) or to [tidytowns@drccd.gov.ie](mailto:tidytowns@drccd.gov.ie)

Please note, we are unable to accept entries by post at this time.

# The Climate Action and Air Quality Award Application Form

## About You

Name of TidyTowns Committee	
County	
Contact Name	
Contact Address	
Phone number	
Email address	

## Category

Please indicate which award you are applying for

Village/Small Town (Tidy Town main category A, B, C and D)	
Large Town/Urban Centre (Tidy Town main category E, F,G and H)	
Is your entry also eligible for the Youth Award?	

## About Your Entry

Entrants should tell us about one key awareness initiative or action in their community, under the headings given below. Please note the maximum word count for each section. Photographs and/or other relevant documents can accompany each entry.

### Please note

Entries are judged on an annual basis and previous scoring does not carry forward. Previous entries are acceptable as long as work is ongoing and a prize has not been previously awarded. All applications may apply to be considered for up to two awards, large town or small town and the youth award on one application or submit a second form, on a different initiative, for consideration under youth award only. Only one prize will be awarded per entry.

1. Please give a **brief overall description** of one key awareness initiative or action in your community which will make a lasting and positive contribution to the climate change and air quality challenges. (max 250 words)

### 2. Raising Awareness & Community Involvement (30 points)

Demonstrate how you raised awareness within the community, and encouraged members of the community to become involved in your initiatives and actions. Examples could include but not limited to lectures, workshops, promotional campaigns, and more. Community involvement could include engagement with a wide range of local groups, including but not limited to sports clubs, social clubs, youth groups or other community groups. (max 500 words)

### 3. Actions for Change (30 points)

Describe how your initiatives and actions helped to bring about change within your community. Examples could be, but are not limited to, surveys showing results before and after action i.e. attendance at meetings/lectures, attitude surveys etc. (max 500 words)

### 4. Supporting Sustainability (20 points)

Describe actions taken by your community to support the sustainable use of local and/or national resources, demonstrating a considered approach to protecting the environment. A non-exhaustive list of examples might include innovative waste management activities such as awareness on tackling issues food waste, recycling, and upcycling, awareness campaigns, or encouraging the use of low smoke fuels. (max 500 words)

### 5. Bonus Marks (20 points)

Up to 20 bonus points will be awarded by the judges for innovative and effective projects which could easily be replicated by other communities, in order to bring the same benefits to other areas. You may include an additional comments you feel might help. (max 500 words)