



Caring for our environment

Information Booklet 2022



Supporting the
Sustainable
Development Goals

Administered by the Department of
Rural & Community Development



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

SuperValu
Real Food, Real People

Dear TidyTowns Volunteers,

Welcome to the 2022 SuperValu TidyTowns competition.

As the majority of Covid-19 restrictions have been relaxed, I am very pleased, as I am sure you are, to have the competition back to normal. A special word of thanks to you all for your efforts over the last two years. While the pandemic is not over, we can all now go about our business in the way we used to. My Department has recently appointed a number of new Adjudicators who will join the existing panel and get ready for the traditional adjudication process in June and July.



As part of this year's competition, we will continue to recognise the tremendous work that TidyTowns groups and their many thousands of volunteers do all across the country. Work in areas such as nature and biodiversity, maintaining green spaces, improving our residential streets and housing areas and the wonderful efforts in keeping our towns and villages attractive, clean and tidy. The way in which TidyTowns groups have connected their projects to the UN Sustainable Development Goals is very welcome and I would encourage you all to continue doing so. Remember, Think Global, Act Local and together we can achieve great things.

Actions in "Our Rural Future" and in the "Town Centre First" policies are being greatly supported by TidyTowns groups and their initiatives.

By working together, we can all make a difference in Rural Ireland - bringing life and energy back into the centres of our Towns and Villages.

I was pleased to be in a position at the awards ceremony in November 2021 to announce a funding package of €1.5 million to assist TidyTowns groups in their initiatives. I hope this funding will support you all in preparing your entry for the 2022 competition. My Department are here to support you in other ways through the recently re-drafted Handbook, the TidyTowns Newsletter and our Social Media pages.

This year, again, we have a wonderful mix of special awards with some brand new additions for 2022. I would encourage all groups to consider entering these awards, noting the later closing date which will give you that little bit of extra time.

To close, I want to thank our main sponsor SuperValu, who have been loyal sponsors of the competition for 30 years plus. I want to thank our special award sponsors, the independent panel of adjudicators but most sincerely, I want to thank the thousands of TidyTowns volunteers, to whom the nation owes a debt of gratitude.

Let me finish by wishing you all every success in the 2022 competition.

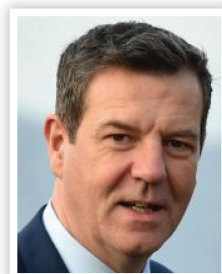


Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Heather Humphreys TD
Minister for Rural and Community Development

Dear TidyTowns Volunteers,

SuperValu is a community retailer, and we take great pride in making a positive impact in every community we operate in. We believe that there is always the opportunity to do more.



This is our 31st year as sponsors of SuperValu TidyTowns. Our commitment to supporting local communities across the country has grown each year, and SuperValu TidyTowns is a programme we are increasingly proud of for that reason. I have already seen the positive impact community action can have on our villages, towns, environment and fundamentally our biodiversity. This competition continues to help drive that change.

SuperValu's mission is to be a better business that helps create vibrant and sustainable communities that care for our planet. Sustainability improves the quality of our lives, protects our ecosystem and preserves natural resources for generations to come and SuperValu takes its part in helping make an impact very seriously. Given our position at the heart of communities, we know that when we make a change it has the potential to contribute positively and impact towns and villages in every county in Ireland.

That is why in March 2022, in collaboration with The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, we launched the SuperValu Save the Bees campaign in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and support the local biodiversity in communities around Ireland. We all want to do our part when it comes to climate action and that includes lending a hand on where we can on biodiversity and sustainability.

SuperValu TidyTowns holds a unique place in the Ireland's culture. SuperValu TidyTowns groups all over Ireland contribute to their communities in practical and creative ways to improve their towns and villages. We want to start by thanking those who have been involved in the past and the volunteers who continue to be involved in improving their local environment and making their area a better place to live, work and visit; creating a sense of place for those living in the area. As we move forward, we are committed to transforming SuperValu TidyTowns into the most sustainable initiative in Europe and are proud of the positive impact it has in every town in country through the 800 committees we support.

We are delighted to have the ongoing partnership of the Department of Rural and Community Development and Minister Heather Humphreys T.D. After two years of a hybrid SuperValu TidyTowns competition, we look forward to resuming normality and getting back out into the towns and villages across the country for the judging process this summer. On behalf of all at SuperValu, I would like to wish you the very best for this year's competition.

Ian Allen
Managing Director, SuperValu

Welcome...

Welcome to the 2022 SuperValu TidyTowns competition. This booklet will provide all the information you need in order to complete and submit your entry for the 2022 SuperValu TidyTowns competition. In addition you will find all the terms and conditions applicable to the competition. The booklet also contains information on each of the special awards attached to the 2022 competition. Further information including sample maps, map graph paper and the new SuperValu TidyTowns Handbook can be found by visiting www.tidytowns.ie.

How To Complete Your 2022 SuperValu TidyTowns Entry Form

The editable Word version of the entry form can be found at www.tidytowns.ie.

Please ensure you read this booklet before completing the entry form.

Please sign/insert name and date on the entry form in the 'About You' section and ensure that you have completed all 8 categories.

When emailing your entry, it should all be contained in 1 email and must not exceed 20MB. Please check the sent and spam folder in your email account to ensure that the email has been sent.

Sometimes less is more, be mindful of the volume of material you submit. The Adjudicator has limited time to review your work during adjudication, so it should be presented in a clear and concise manner.

This may be the adjudicator's first time to adjudicate your town or village so please include a map of your area. Hand-drawn maps are fine once they contain a map legend and have notable landmarks highlighted, in addition to all of your 2022 projects.

Include your TidyTowns 3/5 year plan with your entry.

Please identify each project as New (N) or Maintenance (M) on your Entry Form under the correct category and on your map legend. If you have no new work in any adjudication category, just state 'no new work this year'. Late Entries or additional material sent after the closing date will not be accepted. Completed Entries should be submitted by email only to; tidytowns@drd.gov.ie

Closing date:
Friday May 20th
2022

All entrants must visit www.tidytowns.ie to ensure their 2022 entry has been received and registered. A list of all registered entries will be updated regularly on the TidyTowns website. If after May 27th, your entry is not listed, please contact the TidyTowns unit on 01 773 6938, failure to do so may result in your entry not being registered for the 2022 competition.



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) cover the three dimensions of sustainable development; economic growth, social inclusion and the protection of the environment. There are 17 SDGs. Throughout the entry form you will see where many of the goals are aligned to the different TidyTowns categories. Please identify, if applicable, under each category where your projects or initiatives aim to address one or more of the sustainable goals.

The TidyTowns competition has links to many of the goals and we would welcome any attempt made by TidyTowns committees to highlight these goals and raise awareness of them in your community. Further information on the SDG's can be found by visiting <https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/ff4201-17-sustainable-development-goals/>

Terms & Conditions

1. These terms and conditions together with any guidelines set out in the SuperValu TidyTowns Handbook or the SuperValu TidyTowns Entry Form are the competition rules (“the Rules”). By entering the competition, entrants agree to be bound by the Rules.
2. The SuperValu TidyTowns Competition (“the Competition”) is organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development (“the Department”). In the event of any dispute the decision of the Department will be final.
3. To enter the Competition, the entrant must be a body entering on behalf of a town, village, island or stand-alone area (“town”) and should be working towards being broadly representative of all sectors residing or working in the town.
4. Only one entrant per town is allowed. Where a town has more than one entrant, the Department will, at its absolute discretion, select one to participate in the Competition.
5. Competition entries should be made in the manner, and by the closing date, specified. Late entries will not be accepted. Please keep supporting documentation as concise as possible as the Adjudicators have a limited time to review all material, therefore only material relevant to the projects for consideration should be provided.
6. Entries should be submitted electronically to **tidytowns@drcd.gov.ie** on or before the closing date, the entry should be contained in one single email and should not exceed 20MB. **Entries cannot be submitted via DropBox, Google File share or any other file sharing mode.**
7. Additional information should be clearly referenced to the appropriate category in the entry form. Adjudicators welcome the inclusion of links to websites or social media, which can support your activities or give further information. Links should only be included to support material provided in the entry form and should be kept to a minimum. Adjudicators have a limited period of time in which to review material provided, remember, less is more. We recommend that you identify all photographs, referencing them all clearly with information on the various project or initiative and the date of when the photograph was taken.
8. An acknowledgement email will issue from the Department’s TidyTowns email address to all correspondence received in respect of 2022 entries. A list will be updated regularly on the TidyTowns website listing all entries that have been registered for the 2022 competition. All entrants must visit www.tidytowns.ie to ensure their entry has been received and registered. If one week after the closing date, your entry is not listed; please contact the TidyTowns unit on 01 773 6938, failure to do so may result in your entry not being registered for the 2022 competition.
9. Marks are awarded for the quality of your entry form. The form should be concise and should clearly reference all works undertaken since July 2021. With regard to your new or maintenance projects, identification and location details are important. Accordingly please ensure that;
 - The location of each separate project is marked on the map where this is appropriate. Obviously, this requirement may not apply to some items – for example survey work.
 - Provide a brief description of the project with appropriate details.
 - Indicate when the work started and when it finished, or the proposed completion date for on-going or long-term projects.
10. A good town or village map is essential to your entry. A hand-drawn map is perfectly acceptable if a formal printed map is not available or suitable. The map should be of a manageable size, A4 or A3 depending on the layout of your town or village. On the map please name all streets and roads

as necessary and mark the key public buildings and landmarks. You are advised not to use Google mapping as this is often unclear/inaccurate. You may find the Ordnance Survey Ireland Urban (or Rural as applicable) 'Place' Maps most useful. A clear legend is an essential part of a map and you are recommended to include a legend on the map sheet itself. When numbering projects, your first project under Streetscape & Public Places should be numbered 1, and carry this numeric sequence into subsequent categories. Numbers should not be replicated. Failure to include an adequate map may affect marks under the Community – Your Planning and Involvement category.

11. Photographs can be of great assistance to your adjudicator. Before and after photographs are helpful, just a pair of photographs of each new project is recommended. If you are including photographs, we recommend you incorporate them into the form under the relevant category or as an appendix to the form in a WORD document, you can easily fit up to 6 photographs on an A4 page. Please remember to title each photograph so the adjudicator knows what project it refers to.
12. Prize winners will be selected by a panel of adjudicators appointed by the Department. Unless otherwise stated all prizes will be awarded to the entrant.
13. The adjudicator will examine new or maintenance projects, which have been completed between July 1st 2021, and May 20th, 2022 (competition closing date). Adjudications commences 2 weeks after the closing date.
14. Prize winners will be announced in Q4 2022 and prizes awarded on dates decided by the Department. Failure to claim a prize in the manner specified by the Department may result in the prize being withdrawn or selection of an alternate winner. The Department reserves the right to substitute/alter prizes at any time.
15. The Department cannot accept responsibility for any damage, loss, injury or disappointment suffered by any entrant entering the Competition or as a result of accepting any prize.
16. Information supplied will only be used for the purposes of organising and promoting the Competition and related initiatives. Contact details for committees will be shared with the sponsors and the printing company to allow mailing correspondence with committees. These details will be destroyed following each mailing. All contact details from committees will be destroyed after 3 years in line with GDPR guidelines.
17. Main prizes are the prizes awarded to entrants by virtue of their overall score in the Competition, assessed under the following categories:

Category Marking Structure

- Community – Your Planning & Involvement 80
- Streetscape & Public Places 80
- Green Spaces & Landscaping 80
- Nature & Biodiversity in your Locality 55
- Sustainability – Doing more with less 55
- Tidiness & Litter Control 90
- Residential Streets & Housing Areas 55
- Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes 55

Total 550

18. Prizes unless otherwise stated, consist of a money prize and a certificate.
19. The overall title, Ireland's Tidiest Town is awarded to the entrant with the highest score in the Competition. In addition to a money prize and certificate, the winner receives a perpetual trophy (which

must be subsequently returned to the Department on request), a plaque and funding towards a day of celebration the following year. It is imperative that you enter under the correct Population Category.

20. The titles Tidiest Village, Tidiest Small Town, Tidiest Large Town and Tidiest Large Urban Centre are awarded to the entrant with the highest score in population categories A & B, C & D, E & F and G & H respectively. In addition to a money prize and certificate, the winner receives a perpetual trophy, (which must be subsequently returned to the Department on request). It is imperative that you enter under the correct population category.

21. Population categories are as follows;

Population category	Population
A	Under 200
B	201 to 1,000
C	1,001 to 2,500
D	2,501 to 5,000
E	5,001 to 10,000
F	10,001 to 15,000
G	15,001 to 25,000
H	25,001 and over

22. The Regional Awards are awarded to the first placed entrant in each of the following regions:

Region	Counties
Midlands & East	Dublin, Kildare, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wicklow
North West & West	Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo, Galway, Mayo, Roscommon
South & Mid-West	Cork (North), Cork (South), Cork (West), Kerry, Clare, Limerick
South East	Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary (North), Tipperary (South), Waterford, Wexford

23. The County Awards are awarded to the first, second and third placed entrant in each county, (Tipperary is divided into North and South, and Cork into North, South and West). The Endeavour Award is awarded to the entrant in each county that made the biggest percentage improvement on the previous year's score.

24. A Gold, Silver or Bronze Medal is awarded to an entrant with a score falling within a specified range of marks of the **overall** winner of the competition as follows;

Gold / Silver / Bronze.

Population A&B within 5 / Within 10 / Within 15
 Population C&D within 10 / Within 15 / Within 20
 Population E&F within 15 / Within 20 / Within 30
 Population G&H within 20 / Within 30 / Within 40

25. Other initiatives may arise from time to time and qualifying towns will be contacted by the Department as required.

SuperValu TidyTownns - 2022 Special Awards

We are delighted to announce some new sponsors under our Special Awards category for 2022. The following information will give you a sense of the different awards and the prize attached to each. If you encounter any difficulties accessing any of the special awards application forms, please contact the TidyTownns unit at tidytownns@drcd.gov.ie or the sponsors email provided. If you are entering one or more of the Special Awards, which are relevant to a TidyTownns category, you should also record this as a project on your 2022 SuperValu TidyTownns Entry Form.

Please note that completed entry forms for the various special awards should be emailed to the email address provided and not to the TidyTownns unit.

THE BAT CONSERVATION IRELAND AWARD

PRIZE FUND €1,000

Sponsored by Bat Conservation Ireland

The purpose of this award is to sponsor a public mural or street artwork that promotes awareness by the public of the economic and ecological value of bats. The theme for the illustration is Bats are brilliant! The award consists of an artistic commission of €1,000 towards the project.

To apply, the local TidyTownns committee will be required to submit a short image description (ca. 300 words), the intended location of the image, dimensions of the image, and a sketch or rough drawing of the image. Photographs may be submitted to support your submission. Entries should be submitted using the Bat Conservation in Ireland application form.

The proposed location of the image should be a public place with good footfall and where it can be enjoyed by children and families. The image should aim to spark contemplation and conversation. Project partnerships and collaboration with local artists, schools, organisations and other community groups are encouraged.

Further information can be found at www.tidytownns.ie or www.batconservationireland.org

TREE PROJECT AWARD

PRIZE FUND €1,000

Sponsored by The Tree Council of Ireland

The Tree Project Award recognises the huge impact that properly positioned trees can have in a town or village and the importance of having the right tree in the right place. It is essential that careful thought is put into not only the planting but also the management of the trees over their life-span. The award rewards the TidyTownns Committee which has demonstrated the highest tree placement and maintenance standards.

For more details see www.treecouncil.ie

CLIMATE ACTION AWARD

PRIZE FUND €6,000

**Sponsored by Department of Environment,
Climate and Communications**

The overall aim of the Climate Action Award, sponsored by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, is to recognise the input local communities can make in addressing climate change. The purpose of this award is to raise awareness of climate action, enable local communities to deliver change at a local level, and promote behaviour change in the wider community.

Four prizes will be awarded:

1. €2,250 for the best entry from a village/small town (Category A to D)
2. €2,250 for the best entry from a large town or urban centre (Category E to H)
3. One overall runner-up prize of €1,000 and
4. A special Youth Award of €500.

Further information is available by emailing
Climateawards@decc.gov.ie

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AWARD

PRIZE FUND €6,000

**Sponsored by Department of Environment,
Climate and Communications**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an ambitious set of targets that will require not only action by Government, but all individuals across society. This award aims to showcase projects and initiatives that have embraced the SDGs, and acknowledge the critical role local communities are playing in achieving the SDGs by 2030.

Six Prizes will be awarded:

1. €2,000 for the best entry from a village/small town (category A to D)
2. €2,000 for the best entry from a large town or urban centre (Category E to H)
3. Four runner-up prizes, two from each of the above categories with prizes of €500 each

Further information is available by emailing
SDGs@decc.gov.ie

THE AIR QUALITY AWARD

PRIZE FUND €3,000

**Sponsored by Department of Environment,
Climate and Communications**

The Air Quality award recognises the efforts of Tidy Towns groups in raising awareness of and taking action on air quality issues in their locality. This award aims to highlight how we can all take actions to improve air quality in our areas, for the benefit of all.

Four prizes will be awarded:

1. €1,000 for the best entry from a village/small town (category A to D)
2. €1,000 for the best entry from a large town or urban centre (Category E to H)
3. Two runner-up prizes of €500 each, which may go to entries from any category.

Further information is available by emailing
airquality@decc.gov.ie

AGENT BRITE LITTER AWARENESS AWARD

PRIZE FUND €7,000

Sponsored by PEL Waste Reduction Equipment

This year PEL are delighted to continue our sponsorship of the Agent Brite Litter Awareness Award with the National Tidy Towns. PEL will sponsor the ownership of two BriteBins™ to one lucky Tidy Towns group. PEL will provide the winning Tidy Towns group with one Smart Solar Compacting BriteBin™ and one PEL IoT BriteBin™. Both bins will come equipped with integrated BriteBin™ technology to monitor the realtime fill levels of the bins. The bins will be installed in the winning town or village and PEL Waste Reduction Equipment will facilitate workshops in the local community (Schools, community organisations etc.) to promote the concept of Agent Brite and to encourage recycling on the go by segregating litter at source.

The application will be a written submission describing your Tidy Towns approach to litter management and why you feel your community would benefit from the 'Agent Brite Litter Awareness' Special Award. Entries can be emailed directly to lauren@pelmfg.com

YOUNG PERSONS IN TIDYTOWNS AWARD

PRIZE FUND €5,000

Sponsored by Department of Rural and Community Development

The Young Persons Award is aimed at the 16 to 24 age group who are actively involved in projects and initiatives of their local TidyTownns group throughout the year. It is not open to schools to apply. Entries should be submitted using the Young Persons Award entry form.

Photographs can be used to support your entry. Entries under the Young Persons Award should demonstrate how TidyTownns groups actively involve young people in the 16 to 24 age group in contributing on an ongoing basis to their local TidyTownns activities, including through their membership of, or direct engagement with, the Groups. Initiatives undertaken by the group to encourage greater involvement from this age group should also be included. The award will be presented to the TidyTownns Group whose initiatives have resulted in an increase in involvement from the 16 to 24 age group, resulting in a positive outcome for the TidyTownns group and wider community and demonstrating how young people can have an active leadership role within their community. For more details, see www.tidytownns.ie

THE ISLAND AWARD

PRIZE FUND €1,500

Sponsored by Department of Rural and Community Development

The Islands Award is awarded to the two highest scoring entrants that is an island not connected to the mainland by a bridge, is cut off daily from the mainland by the tide, is permanently inhabited and is not in private ownership.

THE GAELTACHT AWARD

PRIZE FUND €2,500

Sponsored by Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

The Gaeltacht Award is awarded to the two highest scoring entrants from a Gaeltacht area.

The Entry Form must be completed in Irish.

THE RIAI TOWN CHALLENGE

PRIZE FUND €5,000

The award is open to Small Town (1,001 to 5,000) and Large Town (5,001 to 15,000) categories only. Sponsored by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland

The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) is providing the services of a Registered Architect to work with a local TidyTownns Committee to create a visionary urban design solution to a problem in your town. The award consists of an architectural commission.

If your town has difficulties, for example with derelict sites, signage, lack of public space, traffic or parking issues, this RIAI Award will give you the opportunity to work with a Registered Architect to develop an urban design solution that can solve a problem and enhance your town. Registered Architects are trained to develop and deliver solutions for our built environment.

The commissioned Registered Architect will provide an analysis of the problem as initially identified by the local TidyTownns Committee, in addition to developing a concept to address it. The commission will result in an illustrated Report, which will be made publicly available and a presentation to the local TidyTownns Committee.

This RIAI sponsored Special Award aims to promote good urban design in Irish towns. The award consists of an architectural commission to the value of €5,000.

In order to apply, the local TidyTownns committee will write a short paragraph which identifies the positive characteristics of the town, as well as its problems (see application form). This should be supported with photographs.

For more details please visit www.riai.ie or www.tidytownns.ie

THE RIAI SHOPFRONT AWARD

PRIZE FUND €2,000

This competition is open to the Village, Small Towns and Large Town categories.
 Sponsored by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland

The RIAI Shopfront Award is a Special Award, designed to raise awareness and promote good shopfronts in Irish towns and villages. The RIAI Shopfront Collaboration Award aims to support a Tidy Towns Committee who wish to provide guidelines for the design of shopfronts in a historic context with the help of a Registered Architect.

Well-kept historic shopfronts and well-designed modern shopfronts are equally valid. The award consists of an architectural commission to the value of €2,000 for guidelines to support shopfronts in your locality. The commission will result in an illustrated Report, which will be made publicly available, and a presentation to the local Tidy Towns Committee.

In order to apply, the local Tidy Towns committee will complete the entry form. For more details please visit www.riai.ie or www.tidytowns.ie.

THE RIAI GOOD WINDOWS AWARD

PRIZE FUND €500

This competition is open to the Village, Small Towns and Large Town categories.
 Sponsored by the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland

The RIAI Good Windows Award is a Special Award to promote appropriate windows in Irish towns and villages. The streets of Irish towns and villages are composed of both historic and modern buildings. Well-kept historic windows and well-designed modern windows are equally valid.

There is a prize of €500 for the town with the most appropriate windows as follows:

- An example of a well-kept historic window in an urban street **and**
- An example of a good modern window or fully glazed opening in an urban street.

In order to apply, the local Tidy Towns committee will complete the entry form and submit photographs of two buildings which are located in a street and have appropriate windows. The photographs should clearly show the building and the windows.

The awarding committee may share the award between more than one town as appropriate.

For more details please visit www.riai.ie or www.tidytowns.ie.

THE WATERS AND COMMUNITIES AWARD

PRIZE FUND €7,000

Sponsored by Inland Fisheries Ireland, Waterways Ireland and the Local Authority Waters Programme

The award is open to any community group who has shown an appreciation for their water environment and water heritage by showing examples of initiatives undertaken during 2021 (examples include: support to biodiversity and water heritage; citizen science; promotion of angling; awareness raising events and initiatives; clean ups of local waterbodies; provision or upgrading of amenities, etc.)

For more details see www.watersandcommunities.ie

LEAVE NO TRACE TIDYTOWNS AWARD

PRIZE FUND €1,000

Sponsored by Leave No Trace Ireland

Now in its third year, the Leave No Trace Tidy Towns Special Award recognises communities for their significant efforts to protect and enhance the natural environment and the promotion of responsibility in the outdoors. Through recognising these communities, Leave No Trace Ireland seeks to inspire other communities to take extraordinary actions to protect and promote responsible outdoor recreation. Apply today and tell us what your group has achieved.

This year, Leave No Trace Ireland are offering a cash prize of €1,000, access to online Leave No Trace Resources and promotion across social media.

For more information please see www.leavenotraceireland.org

HERITAGE AWARD

PRIZE FUND €1,000

Sponsored by the Heritage Council

The Heritage Award, sponsored by the Heritage Council, aims to promote awareness of the importance of our local heritage and how it can contribute to a sense of place and belonging.

Heritage includes buildings, monuments and collections and also our landscapes, native wildlife and woodlands, seascapes, geology, heritage gardens and parks, inland waterways, folklore and crafts.

The Heritage Award recognises local communities who manage and enhance an aspect of heritage in their area, and promote its value to a wider audience.

For more details, please email:
vkelly@heritagecouncil.ie

ALL-IRELAND POLLINATOR PLAN - LOCAL AUTHORITY POLLINATOR AWARD

PRIZE FUND €10,000

**Sponsored by Heritage Offices & Biodiversity
 Offices of Local Authorities across Ireland, in
 partnership with the National Biodiversity Data
 Centre**

Local Authority Pollinator Award aims to encourage Tidy Towns groups to implement pollinator-friendly actions in their towns and villages as part of the Tidy Towns competition. Wild Irish bees, crucial to the pollination of our plants, trees and vegetables, are in decline – this is because we've drastically reduced the areas where they can nest and the amount of food our countryside provides for them. The aim of the award is to reverse this trend by encouraging Tidy Towns groups to take simple pollinator-friendly measures in their local area. The Local Authority Pollinator Award supports the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and is sponsored by the Heritage Offices & Biodiversity Offices of Local Authorities across Ireland.

A prize of €1,000 will be awarded in each of the four regions at Village/Small Town category and at Large Town/Large Urban Centre category. Out of these eight finalists, one overall national winner will receive an additional €1,000. There is also a "Best Newcomer Award" with a prize of €1,000.

For more details see www.pollinators.ie

EPA CIRCULAR ECONOMY AWARD

PRIZE FUND €2,000

**Sponsored by The Environmental Protection
 Agency**

The EPA Circular Economy Award is to recognise communities that have undertaken activities that support a circular economy. In a circular economy waste is prevented and products are reused or repaired for reuse. By preventing waste and supporting the circular economy we can make the most of our resources while protecting the environment. Any initiatives to reduce the use or consumption of resources (materials, products, water, energy), sharing resources/products, reuse, repair or remanufacture are included; whether by the community, householders, businesses, schools, with your local authority, or other organisations. Work done under the main competition category 'Sustainability – doing more with less' can be relevant to this special award.

The overall national winner will receive a €1,000 prize, with 2 national runner-up prizes of €500 each.

For more details please email cep@epa.ie

SAVE THE BEES SCHOOL AWARD

PRIZE FUND €5,000

Sponsored by SuperValu

The Save the Bees School Award is an initiative by SuperValu which encourages schools to share what they have implemented in Biodiversity projects in their school. This year SuperValu are looking for Primary schools that showcase the significant contribution to biodiversity projects developed in the school and to also share any future plans to further enhance this topic in the classrooms.

A finalist group from each of the four regions will be chosen, with each finalist group receiving €1,000. The overall winner will then receive an additional €1,000.

SUPERVALU AND ASIAM INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES AWARD

PRIZE FUND €2,000

Sponsored by SuperValu and AslAm

This award aims to recognise the outstanding work done by committees in embracing and including the autism community. SuperValu and AslAm are working in partnership to promote the creation of more inclusive communities and this award is to acknowledge the hard work done by the committees who are making changes to promote and facilitate inclusivity of the autism community.

A prize of €2000 will be awarded to the TidyTowns committee who best demonstrates how they promoted the inclusion of the autism community through autism friendly projects and initiatives.

Resources and information regarding autism friendly practices are available on **supervalu.ie**, **AslAm.ie** and **ILoveClonakilty.ie**.

For more details see **www.AsIAm.ie** or **www.supervalu.ie**